



We are facing challenges due to a neighbour: Jaishankar

page 13



Kashmiris are dying a slow death, says CPI(M) leader Tarigami

page 13



Opening of Sri Lanka's tallest tower marred by corruption charges

page 14

India takes on South Africa in second T20I at Mohali today

page 20



NEARBY



SAD to contest Assembly elections in Haryana

CHANDIGARH
The BJP's ally, the Shiromani Akali Dal, on Tuesday declared that it would contest the upcoming Assembly elections in Haryana. A meeting of the core committee of the party presided by SAD chief Sukhbir Singh Badal also passed a resolution saying regional languages serve as an inalienable symbol of the rich multicultural character of India's federal and democratic polity.

NORTH ► PAGE 5



OPPORTUNITIES ► PAGE 15

United Left sweeps JNUSU elections

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
NEW DELHI

Celebrations were delayed but not muted at Jawaharlal Nehru University on Tuesday evening as the united front of Left student groups – AISA, SFI, AISF and DSF – swept all four central panel posts in the JNUSU polls.

The election committee that conducted the students' union elections declared the results after the Delhi High Court granted it permission to do so earlier in the day.

Aishe Ghosh of the Students' Federation of India, who contested under the broader united Left panel, was declared the president.

She defeated Manish Jangid of the ABVP by bagging 2,313 votes. Jangid got 1,128 votes.

DETAILS ON ► PAGE 3

Govt. to peg MGNREGA wages to inflation in bid to hike incomes

Stimulus measure to link pay to consumer price index with annual revision

PRISCILLA JEBARAJ
NEW DELHI

Staring at a slump in demand and a slowdown in the rural economy, the Centre plans to inject more money into the UPA's flagship Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Act (MGNREGA) scheme by linking wages under the Act to an updated inflation index, which will be revised annually.

It hopes this will increase wages, thus increasing purchasing power and reviving rural demand.

However, some economists question whether linking wage rates to a better inflation index will be sufficient, given that MGNREGA workers are paid much lower than market rates.

The national average wage of an MGNREGA worker is ₹178.44 per day, less than

Kickstarting rural demand

The government aims to revise wages of MGNREGA workers to address the slowdown in the rural economy



- MGNREGA wages will be linked to an updated inflation index
- Higher wages will increase MGNREGA expenditure by 10%
- They may also increase purchasing power and revive rural demand
- MGNREGA budgetary allocation for FY20: ₹60,000 crore
- Funds released till Sept. 17: ₹46,486 cr.
- Additional funds requested: ₹15,000-20,000 crore

half of the ₹375 per day minimum wage recommended by a Labour Ministry panel earlier this year.

Update of indices

In the first week of September, the Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation and the Labour Bureau informed the Rural De-

velopment Ministry that they had begun work to update the consumer price indices for rural areas (CPI-R) and agricultural labourers (CPI-AL) respectively.

"This has been a long-pending demand, but the case may be stronger now... This is one of the demand-side interventions that the

government is carrying out in light of the current scenario in the rural economy," said a senior official of the Rural Development Ministry, referencing the current slowdown.

Changed patterns

"The consumption basket of CPI-AL [which determines MGNREGA wage revisions] has not been updated for more than three decades, and rural consumption patterns have changed drastically in that time," said the official. Food items make up more than two-thirds of the CPI-AL consumption basket, but rural workers today spend a much smaller percentage of their money on subsidised food, and an increasingly larger amount on health, education and transport costs.

CONTINUED ON ► PAGE 12

No relief for West Bengal Addl. DGP

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
KOLKATA/NEW DELHI

A court in West Bengal's North 24 Parganas district on Tuesday rejected the anticipatory bail plea of senior IPS officer and Additional Director General of Police (CID) Rajeev Kumar. "The matter is not maintainable here," district judge at Barasat Court Md. Shabbir Rashidi said, after hearing lawyers representing Mr. Kumar and the Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI).

Counsel for the CBI opposed Mr. Kumar's plea and appealed to the court to issue an arrest warrant against him.

The court said the cases pertaining to the appeal had originated from the Alipore district court, where the chargesheets were filed.

CONTINUED ON ► PAGE 12

Afghan President Ashraf Ghani unhurt as suicide blasts kill 48

Attacks come days before presidential poll

REUTERS
KABUL

Taliban suicide bombers killed 48 people in two separate attacks in Afghanistan on Tuesday, the deadliest taking place near an election rally by President Ashraf Ghani, who escaped unhurt.

The attacks happened 11 days before the presidential election, which Taliban commanders have vowed to disrupt, and follow the collapsed talks between the U.S. and the insurgent group.

Gathering targeted

Mr. Ghani, who is seeking a second five-year term in the September 28 election, was due to address a rally at Charikar, the capital of Parwan province, when a bomber at-



Deadly attack: A policeman at the site of a suicide attack in Parwan province of Afghanistan on Tuesday. ■ AP

tacked the gathering. The blast killed 26 people and wounded 42, said Nasrat Rahimi, spokesman for the Interior Ministry.

In the other incident, a man on foot blew himself up in the centre of the capital Kabul. Twenty-two people were killed, and 38 were wounded, the Ministry said.

In a statement claiming responsibility for the blasts,

Taliban spokesman Zabihullah Mujahid said the attack near Mr. Ghani's rally was aimed at disrupting the election.

"We have already warned people not to attend election rallies. If they suffer any loss, that is their own responsibility," it said.

TALIBAN WARNS OF MORE VIOLENCE ► PAGE 14

In a setback to BSP, all six MLAs join the Congress in Rajasthan

They were earlier supporting the ruling party from outside

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
JAIPUR

In a major setback to the Bahujan Samaj Party (BSP), all its six MLAs in Rajasthan joined the ruling Congress on Tuesday.

Now, the Congress's tally in the 200-member Assembly has gone up to 106.

The merger came as a boost to the Congress ahead of the municipal elections in November.

The BSP MLAs, who were in touch with Chief Minister Ashok Gehlot for several days, handed over a letter informing Speaker C.P. Joshi of their legislature party's merger with the Congress. Mr. Joshi accepted the letter and allowed the merger.

The MLAs were earlier supporting the Congress from outside after the party won 100 seats and its ally, the Rashtriya Lok Dal, won one seat. One of them, Rajendra Gudha ((Udaipurwari), said they had taken the decision to ensure the "stability of the government" and work for the development of the State. The other 5 MLAs are Jogen-



Chief Minister Ashok Gehlot

dra Singh Awana (Nadbai), Wajib Ali (Nagar), Lakhani Singh (Karauli), Sandeep Yadav (Tijara) and Deepchand (Kishangarh Bas).

A betrayal: Mayawati

BSP supreme Mayawati called the merger a betrayal of the BSP movement and accused the "untrustworthy" Congress of being anti-SC, anti-ST and anti-OB.

Rajasthan Chief Minister Ashok Gehlot said the six BSP MLAs had merged with the Congress on their own.

Reacting to the criticism by Ms. Mayawati, Mr. Gehlot said the Congress had not managed the defection in any way. "Mayawati Ji's reaction is natural... but it is a conscious

decision of the BSP MLAs in the interest of the State and the electorate."

On the sidelines of a function here, he said, "She should realise that her party is neither in government nor do they have a possibility to form a government in Rajasthan." There was "no horse-trading" and the MLAs had taken a unanimous decision for the sake of political stability, so that "we can work together for the development of the State."

The defection will not incur any disqualification because all the BSP MLAs have switched over to the Congress.

There has been speculation that the BJP was trying to lure the BSP and Independent MLAs in a bid to repeat a Karnataka-type upheaval in Rajasthan.

Mr. Gehlot said he was told that the BJP was offering up to ₹25 crore each to the Assembly members. "From where the BJP is getting so much money? They can go to any extent for their game plans."

Mob makes four undergo 'Bangladeshi test' in Assam

They are not illegal immigrants: police

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
GUWAHATI

A mob allegedly made four persons undergo a 'Bangladeshi test' in Baksa district of Assam, and handed them over to the police after questioning their citizenship status.

The four, all Muslims, were returning from Guwahati to Suwagpur on September 13 in a pick-up truck with building materials. Some 50 local people allegedly stopped the vehicle at night and demanded proof of their inclusion in the National Register of Citizens (NRC).

No 'convincing' replies

When the four failed to give "convincing" replies, the mob handed them over to the Goreswar police station, 60 km north of Guwahati. The police identified them as Sahid Miya and his wife Bimala Begum of Baksa district, Lalbor Ali of Barpeta and Abdul Qayum of Morigaon.

H. Goswami, officer in charge of the station, said the people suspected them to be Bangladeshis. "Upon



Over 19 lakh people have been excluded from the NRC in Assam.

verification, we found that they were not illegal immigrants," he said.

There have been reports of mobs questioning "suspected foreigners" in the districts of eastern Assam such as Dibrugarh and Tinsukia.

Some NGOs in the neighbouring States have upped the ante against the NRC-excluded people believed to be sneaking in.

In Meghalaya, over 230 people from Assam have been turned back at checkpoints or told to leave work-sites.

Welling up



Sit-in protest: Sardar Sarovar dam oustees staging a protest, under the banner of Medha Patkar-led Narmada Bachao Andolan, on the 69th birthday of Prime Minister Narendra Modi, by blocking the Kasravad bridge across the Narmada on Tuesday. ■ SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT

U.S., India keen to wrap up trade deal

Ironing out issues ahead of Modi visit

TCA SHARAD RAGHAVAN
NEW DELHI

In the run-up to the meeting in Houston between Prime Minister Narendra Modi and U.S. President Donald Trump, it appears that both countries are frantically working on ways to resolve long-disputed trade issues, especially relating to medical devices, agriculture, and e-commerce.

It is learnt that U.S. Ambassador to India Kenneth I. Juster met Piyush Goyal on Tuesday.

Presentation for Goyal

Mr. Juster was also present at a two-and-a-half-hour representation made by U.S. medical device manufacturing and pharmaceutical companies to Mr. Goyal.

External Affairs Minister S. Jaishankar, at a press conference, said the India-U.S. relationship "is in very good



U.S. Ambassador Kenneth I. Juster met Piyush Goyal on Tuesday.

health" and trade problems are normal.

The U.S. government's demands, on behalf of its pharmaceutical companies, are for India to remove the price caps on medical devices, especially on bioabsorbable stents for the heart and the knee. Mr. Trump will visit Mr. Modi at the 'Howdy Modi' event in Houston for Indian-Americans on September 22.

CONTINUED ON ► PAGE 12

Stocks slip on oil; Sensex declines 1.7%

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
MUMBAI

Concerns over the surge in crude oil prices and its impact on the economy kept equity investors on tenterhooks for a second straight session on Tuesday, with benchmark indices extending their slide.

The 30-stock BSE Sensex lost 642.22 points, or 1.7%, to close at 36,481.09, dragged down by auto and bank stocks that were among the biggest losers. The shares of all but three of the 30 companies declined. Hero MotoCorp was the worst performer, skidding 6.2%, followed by Tata Motors, which lost 5.1%.

The 50-share Nifty fell below the psychological 11,000-mark to close at 10,817.60, down 185.90 points, or 1.69%.

CONTINUED ON ► PAGE 12
'SAUDI ATTACKS STAGED FROM IRAN' ► PAGE 14
RUPEE WEAK ► PAGE 16
FIRE TO FUEL ► EDITORIAL

Ayodhya hearing: SC delves into motifs

KRISHNADAS RAJAGOPAL
NEW DELHI

Lotus carvings on Kasauti pillars, figurines, Garuda flanked by two lions and a Dwarapal are not typical features of a mosque, the Su-

preme Court confronted the Muslim side in the Ayodhya hearing on Tuesday.

The questions from the Constitution Bench led by Chief Justice of India Ranjan Gogoi were based on archi-

tectural features and photographs of materials believed to be unearthed from the Babri Masjid-Ramjanmabhum site.

DETAILS ON ► PAGE 12

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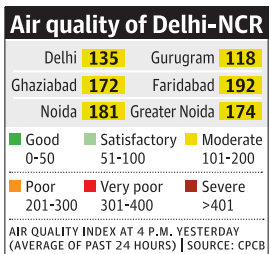
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IN BRIEF
Wanted criminal nabbed in Greater Noida

NOIDA
A man wanted in multiple cases of murder and robbery was arrested in Greater Noida on Tuesday by the Special Task Force (STF) of the Uttar Pradesh Police, an officer said. Ajit Singh, 45, was held around 12 midnight by the Noida field unit of the STF along with the local police in Beta II area following a tip-off, the officers said.



Sanjay Puri appointed grievance panel member

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT NEW DELHI
Chief Minister Arvind Kejriwal on Tuesday appointed Sanjay Puri, an eminent social and environmental activist, as member of the Public Grievance Commission of the Delhi government.
According to the statement, Mr. Puri was Chairman, municipal corporation, West Zone, and municipal councillor from Janakpuri. Mr. Puri is “fondly known as the architect of new property calculation system known as Unit Area Method [UAM]”, the government said.
The UAM was introduced in 2004 in Delhi and Mr. Puri was the only elected representative in the hardship and anomaly committee.

DELHI TODAY
Talk: Seminar on “China’s New FDI Law: A Mixed Bag For Foreign Investors” by Santosh Pal, Partner at Link Legal at Seminar Room, Institute of Chinese Studies (ICS), Civil Lines, 3 p.m.
Talk: “Radical Ecological Democracy: Towards a Sustainable and Equitable Future” a talk by Ashish Kothari, founding member of Kalpavriksh. Chair: Prof. Ashish Nandy at Seminar Rooms - I, II & III, Kamaladevi Complex, India International Centre (IIC), 6.30 p.m.
Exhibition: “My Journey”, a solo paintings exhibition by Sabia, at Visual Arts Gallery, India Habitat Centre (IHC), 11 a.m.-7 p.m.
Exhibition: “Close Your Eyes And”, a group paintings exhibition by artists Arunava Mondal, Avijit Mukherjee, Katayun Saklat and Asis Kumar Sanyal at Open Palm Court Gallery, IHC, 11 a.m.-7 p.m.
Exhibition: “Rumination of An Unfettered Mind”, a solo show by Laxmi Gupta at Triveni Gallery, Triveni Kala Sangam, 205, Tansen Marg, 11 a.m.-8 p.m.
Exhibition: “Lucid”, an amalgamation of two series of works by photographer Abhishek Basu at Art Explore, 23 Lakeside, Hauz Khas Village, 11 a.m.-6 p.m.
(Mail your listings for this column at cityedtor@thehindu.co.in)

Eye on Assembly polls, AAP to launch Dalit outreach programme

Party leaders to visit Dalit colonies to promote schemes of the Delhi govt.

NIKHIL M BABU NEW DELHI
The Aam Aadmi Party (AAP) will launch a Dalit outreach programme under which senior leaders would travel to Dalit colonies in the city. This comes as the party gears up for the Assembly elections in February 2020, sources said.
The programme will be launched within a week and will cover over 5,500 Dalit bastis.

The leaders will talk about free entrance coaching scheme for Scheduled Caste students, arrangements made during birth anniversaries of icons like B.R. Ambedkar and Valmiki, and others schemes for Dalits

AAP LEADER

Works done by party
“During the visits, we will hold meetings and tell people what we have done for the Dalits and compare it with other States and the Central government,” a senior AAP leader said.
“The leaders will talk about free entrance coaching scheme for Scheduled Caste students, arrangements made during birth anniversaries of icons like B.R. Ambedkar and Valmiki, and others schemes for Dalits,” the leader added.
The demolition of Ravidas temple in the city by the Delhi Development Authority, which is under the ambit of Central government, will also be raised during the visits.
AAP leaders like SC, ST Welfare Minister Rajendra Pal Gautam and other MLAs from Dalit community will lead the programme.
This is the fourth public outreach programme the

party has launched after its drubbing defeat in the Lok Sabha election in Delhi in May.
The party had lost all seven seats it contested and finished third in five of the seven seats.
Public connect
Later, a survey done by the party, which showed that they need to increase the connect with people, according to sources.
In June, the AAP had launched ‘Aapka Vidhayak Aapke Dwar’, under which AAP MLAs visit different areas in their constituencies. In September, ‘Jan Samvaad Yatra’ and ‘I Love Kejriwal’ campaign were launched.
Though the Delhi Assembly election is due in February 2020, there have been rumours that it could be held earlier.
But it has been denied by the Election Commission.

BJP acted like Babur, says AAP leader

Party to hold rally over temple demolition

STAFF REPORTER NEW DELHI
AAP MP Sanjay Singh on Tuesday said that BJP acted like Mughal dynasty’s founder Babur and demolished a temple of Ravidas in the city. The AAP would protest against the demolition on September 21 along with other organisations
Addressing a press conference at the party headquarters, Mr. Singh said, “On one side you say Babur demolished the Ram temple, today, the BJP, by demolishing Ravidas temple, you have also acted like Babur.”
On August 10, the temple was demolished by the Delhi Development Authority following a Supreme Court. Later, thousands of Dalits protested in the Capital against the demolition, which turned violent.

‘Don’t do politics’
AAP Social Welfare Minister Rajendra Pal Gautam said that there should be no politics on the issue.
“Nearly 96 people who protested against the demolition of the temple are still in jail and they have not

been granted bail. The police should investigate based on records and punish people who have done wrong and not innocent people,” Mr. Gautam said.
“I request [Hardeep] Puri and Central government and DDA not to do politics on the issue. DDA should send a proposal to Delhi government so that we can send it to Central government to de notify the forest land so that temple can be build there,” he added.
The AAP MP said that he will also write a letter on behalf of the three AAP members in Rajya Sabha, asking for an appointment with Mr. Puri.
“The DDA broke the temple which it hurt the sentiments of crores of people. CM Arvind Kejriwal and Social Welfare Minister Rajendra Pal Gautam wrote a letter to the PM on the matter. He was repeatedly requested to direct the DDA to allot land for the construction of the temple. The Chief Minister also wrote a letter to Union Urban Minister Hardeep Puri on 11 September. He has not replied till today,” Mr. Singh said.

In full swing



Preparation under way at the Red Fort ground ahead of Ramila celebration on Tuesday. •SUSHIL KUMAR VERMA

Activists debate on Article 341, urge Centre for quota benefits

They want Dalit Muslims to be categorised as Scheduled Castes

SHEIKH SAQIB NEW DELHI
A group of Muslim activists came together at Laxmi Nagar’s Gurdwara for a debate on Article 370 and Article 341.
The debate was organised by All India United Muslims Morcha which said it has been working for the weaker sections of the minority community since 1994. Among the participants were Morcha’s national vice-president Kamal

Ashraf, national spokesperson Hafiz Ghulam Sarwer, general secretary Mohammad Riyazuddin, Imam Fatuma Masjid, Murtaza All-Hussaini and others.
The idea behind such debates, they said, was to spread awareness among the Muslim population about the controversy surrounding Article 341 and make pleas to Prime Minister Narendra Modi to categorise Dalit Muslims among Schedule Castes in order to

allow them to get benefits of the country’s reservation policy.
Md. Reyazuddin, the national general secretary of the morcha, said that accommodation of Dalit Muslims on a par with Hindu, Sikhs and Buddhist in the Scheduled Castes category is the most burning issue at present.
“Our Prime Minister should give us a chance to embrace him with all our heart,” he said.

BJP leaders celebrate Modi’s birthday

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT NEW DELHI
The BJP on Tuesday celebrated Prime Minister Narendra Modi’s birthday across its 14 districts and 280 mandals here.
Senior party leaders from the Capital began the celebrations with a photo exhibition on Mr. Modi’s political journey which was inaugurated by Union Minister Hardeep Puri, Delhi in-charge Shyam Jaju and Delhi BJP president Manoj Tiwari followed by a community feeding session at its Delhi headquarters.
Union Minister V.K. Singh and former Delhi BJP president Vijay Goel organised a camp where 1,000 kg of sweets were distributed in exchange for plastic items such as used bottles in a joint bid to both commemorate the Prime Minister’s birthday as well as take his anti-plastic campaign to the streets of Old Delhi.
Meanwhile, Chief Minis-



Delhi BJP chief Manoj Tiwari and party workers come together to celebrate PM’s birthday. •SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT

ter Arvind Kejriwal also joined in extending birthday greetings to Mr. Modi on Twitter where he said, “Happy birthday to Hon’ble PM Shri @narendramodi ji. We wish him a long and healthy life.”
While Mr. Tiwari distributed a laddoo cake to attendees at India Gate, former Mayor of the North Delhi Municipal Corporation and Councillor Adesh Gupta took the opportunity to celebrate the Prime Minister’s birthday and the withdraw-

wal of Article 370 from Jammu and Kashmir by cutting a cake that weighed 370 kg, in west Patel Nagar.
‘Work tirelessly’
“Prime Minister Narendra Modi has made India proud. He has been given the highest civil award by most of the countries. Every Indian is proud of such a Prime Minister. We should take inspiration from him and discharge our duties by working tirelessly 24/7,” Mr. Jaju said.

Refresher course for Delhi police officers

Personnel attend sessions every week; learn how to win people’s trust

HEMANI BHANDARI NEW DELHI

Correct methods of saluting, how to win people’s confidence, how to refresh memory in court, how to handle aggressive behaviour, how to clean and maintain a pistol, and anger management are among a few modules of the syllabus that is being taught to Delhi police officers in a refresher course every week.

Delhi Police Commissioner Amulya Patnaik, during the crime review meeting about a month ago, had directed all 14 districts to conduct the course for lower level subordinates.
In the seven-day refresher course, the officers – constables and head constables – attend classes from 7 a.m. to 6.30 p.m. The classes are taken by retired and serving police officers.

The syllabus, accessed by *The Hindu*, states that the officers, on Day 1, are taught correct methods of saluting with or without arms at different places; cleanliness and maintenance of police stations; beat policing which includes, tenant verification, meeting senior citizens and Resident Welfare Association members.



Police officers attend the seven-day refresher course in the city. •SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT

On Day 2, the officers are primarily taught how to improve police department’s image and public perception which includes how to behave with complainants and how to win their trust. They are also taught how to produce evidence in courts and refresh memory and also how to produce an accused in the court – a session taken by a public prosecutor.

Speaking classes
On Day 3, a communication unit officer takes classes on public speaking and basic English language along with

etiquettes; especially how to speak to non-Hindi speaking complainants. The next day, officers are taught important sections of the Indian Penal Code and the Criminal Procedure Code.
The second half of the day is about handling and maintaining a revolver/pistol and also how to handle aggressive law violators with minimum use of force.
Towards the end of the week, the officers are informed and trained on preventing sexual harassment at workplace. Most importantly, the officers are told about anger and stress management techniques, including

how to control reaction in a volatile situation. They are taught how to deal with women victim of dowry, sexual harassment, molestation and rape cases.

Corrupt practices
Officers, on the sixth day, learn about how to avoid bringing a bad name to the security agency, for instance, prevention of corrupt practices and their consequences.

A test is then conducted in the second half followed by checking and the day ends with a one-hour “games” class.

Success so far
The classes which were rolled out in the East district two weeks ago have been a success so far, a senior police officer said. “Every week, a new batch of about 60 officers is called for training; about five-six officers from every police station,” the officer said.
Talking about how the classes are being received by officers, the senior officer said that during feedback, the officers said that the course has increased their confidence.

CORRIGENDUM NOTICE
Subject: Tender No. OP2/09/19-20-Design, Supply, Installation, Testing and Commissioning of Engineer Auditing System with 0.2s and 0.5s, AMR compatible, DLMS compliant 11 KV and 66 KV Three Phase 4 Wire H.T. Metres along with GPRS/GSM enabled modem at EHV Sub Station.
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SEARCH FOR MISSING/KIDNAPPED PERSON

Harish Kr. Gupta
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PROCLAMATION REQUIRING THE APPEARANCE OF PERSON ACCUSED
See Section 82 Cr. PC
Whereas complaint has been made before me that accused person namely (1) Ajay Gupta S/o Daya Chand, (2) Abhay Gupta S/o Ajay Gupta, R/o 2502, Gali No. 7, 8 Gurudwara Road, Karol Bagh, Delhi and H.No. 2, Tagore Park, Near Model Town, Delhi, has committed (or is suspected to have committed) the Offence FIR No. 107/19 u/s 406/34 IPC at P.S. Karol Bagh, Delhi, and it has been returned to a warrant of arrest thereupon issued that the said (1) Ajay Gupta & (2) Abhay Gupta cannot be found and whereas it has been shown to my satisfaction that the said (1) Ajay Gupta & (2) Abhay Gupta has absconded (or is concealing themselves to avoid the service of the said warrant). Proclamation u/s 82 CrPC is hereby made that the said (1) Ajay Gupta & (2) Abhay Gupta accused of FIR No. 107/19 u/s 406/34 IPC is required to appear before this court to answer the said complaint on or before 31.10.2019.
By Order
DP/6570/CD/19- Sh. Fahad Uddin
(Court Matter) Metropolitan Magistrate (Central Distt.)
Room No. 180, 1st Floor, Tis Hazari Court, Delhi

HIMACHAL PRADESH PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT
Tel. 01972-223965, 225735, Email- hp-ham@nic.in
INVITATION FOR BID (IFB)
The Superintending Engineer, 8th Circle, HPPWD Hamirpur HP on behalf of Governor of H.P. re-invites the item rate bids, in electronic tendering system from the eligible class of contractors registered with HPPWD for the works as detailed in the table.

Sr. No.	Name of work	Estimated Cost	Starting Date for downloading Bid	Earnest Money	Cost of bid form	Deadline for submission of Bid.	Date of opening of Technical Bid
1.	Up-gradation of Panjtal to Dharyara road km. 0/0 to 4/600 Package No. HP-03-136 i/c five year maintenance, (World Bank for 2018-19 Batch-I RRP-II)	1,91,72,505.00	25.09.2019 at 6:00 PM	3,83,000.00	5000.00	09.10.2019 at 11:30 AM	10.10.2019 at 11:30 AM
2.	Up-gradation of Hukkal to Chhattar road km. 0/0 to 13/0 including routine maintenance for five years in between km. 0/0 to 13/0 Under PMGSY Package No. HP-08-417 (World Bank for 2018-19 Batch-I RRP-II)	6,70,80,929.00	25.09.2019 at 6:00 PM	13,41,700.00	5000.00	09.10.2019 at 5:00 PM	10.10.2019 at 11:30 AM
3.	Up-gradation of Longti to Sajao road (L-056) road km. 0/0 to 5/0 including routine maintenance for five years in between km. 0/0 to 5/0 Under PMGSY Package No. HP-08-422. (World Bank for 2018-19 Batch-I RRP-II)	2,86,06,991.00	25.09.2019 at 6:00 PM	5,72,200.00	5000.00	09.10.2019 at 5:00 PM	10.10.2019 at 11:30 AM
4.	C/o Sidhpur to Drahail Road km. 0/0 to 5/810 under PMGSY Package No. HP-08-367 World Bank RRP-II 2018-19.	3,82,10,481.00	25.09.2019 at 6:00 PM	7,65,000.00	5000.00	09.10.2019 at 5:00 PM	10.10.2019 at 11:30 AM
5.	C/o Link road to Village Dhalton to Brehal road Km 0/0 to 8/400 under PMGSY Package No. HP-08-370 world Bank RRP-II Batch-I	4,44,43,256.00	25.09.2019 at 6:00 PM	8,89,000.00	5000.00	09.10.2019 at 5:00 PM	10.10.2019 at 11:30 AM
6.	Upgradation of Parachu to Sajao km. 0/0 to 5/0 (L-060) including routine maintenance for five years in km. 0/0 to 5/0) Package No. HP-08-421 (Under PMGSY). (World Bank for 2018-19 Batch-I RRP-II)	2,81,09,134.00	25.09.2019 at 6:00 PM	5,63,000.00	5000.00	09.10.2019 at 5:00 PM	10.10.2019 at 11:30 AM

The bidders are advised to note other details of tenders from the department website: **www.pmgstenders.gov.in**.
Sd/-
Superintending Engineer, 8th Circle, HPPWD, Hamirpur Pin. 177001
on behalf of Governor of Himachal Pradesh
HP/2099/19-20

WEST CENTRAL RAILWAY
Operating Branch E-OPEN TENDER
The Divisional Railway Manager (Operating), West Central Railway, Jabalpur, for and on behalf of the President of India, invites applications on prescribed tender form for the following work through IREPS system:- NIT No.: JBP/T/204/ Veh./Tender JKE-KYCE/2019, Dated 13.09.2019. Name of work with location: Hiring of one NON-AC road vehicle, Bolero/Camper/Tata Sumo for 2 years for relieving or spare staff (Driver-Guard) from station to siding and back at JKE-KYCE station/siding and any other points as per administration requirement to be used 24 Hrs. for transportation of Crew with line box. Approx. cost of the work: ₹ 27,27,469.80. Cost of tender form: ₹ 3,000/-. Address of the office from where the tender form can be purchased: DRM(Optg.) Office/ Jabalpur. Earnest Money: ₹ 54,600/-. Completion Period: 24 Months (730 days). Date & Time for submission of tender (upto 15.00 Hrs.): 09.10.2019. Date & Time for opening of tender (at 15.30 Hrs.): 09.10.2019. Complete details of tender notice are available on the Railway website **www.ireps.gov.in** complete tender form filled on IREPS portal only.
रेल यात्रा के दौरान शिकायत हेतु 138 पर एच सुरक्षा हेतु 182 पर संपर्क करें।
A ND-NDE

IN BRIEF
Man found dead at Dwarka residence

NEW DELHI
A 32-year-old man was found dead at his residence in Dwarka north area in the early hours of Tuesday. No note was recovered, the police said. Family members have allegedly told the police that he was upset over not getting a job and had been unemployed for a long time. Inquest proceedings have been initiated, the police said.

Minor held for thrashing, robbing senior citizen

NEW DELHI
A minor was apprehended for allegedly thrashing, confining and robbing a 60-year-old woman in south Delhi's Maidan Garhi on Monday night, the police said. They said that the accused along with his accomplice entered the woman's house on pretext of renting a room. The accused were known to the woman's husband who died a few months ago, the police said. The accused fled the house leaving the woman unconscious. The victim's neighbour informed the police.

Businessman shot dead outside his house

Victim had a scuffle with assailants: police

STAFF REPORTER
NEW DELHI

A 44-year-old businessman was shot dead by two motorcycle-borne men outside his house in north-east Delhi's Jyoti Nagar area on Monday night. Deputy Commissioner of Police (North East) Ved Prakash Surya said the victim has been identified as Rajul Gupta, who ran an electronics showroom a few metres away from his house.

The police said they received a PCR call from a private hospital around 11.30 p.m. about a man being brought there with a gunshot injury on his back and that he was declared dead. The victim's family members told

the police that he was shot in front of his house by two men riding a motorbike.

Further investigation revealed that Mr. Gupta was returning home on his scooter when he had a scuffle with two men who allegedly shot him and fled. "The reason behind the scuffle is not known yet. The family members have claimed that the victim used to wear a gold chain which is missing," Mr. Surya said.

The police have registered a case under Section 302 (punishment for murder) of the IPC, but based on the details shared by the family, they have added Section 392 (punishment for robbery).

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
NEW DELHI

Celebrations were delayed but not muted at Jawaharlal Nehru University on Tuesday evening as the united front of Left students groups swept all four central panel posts in the JNUSU polls.

The election committee that conducted the JNU students' union elections declared the results after the Delhi High Court granted it permission to do so earlier in the day. The results of the election, held on September 6, were not declared as per schedule on September 8 as the High Court was to hear two petitions regarding the polls on Tuesday. The court disposed of both the petitions.

Thumping majority

Keeping with the trends announced by the election committee earlier, Aishe Ghosh of the Students' Fed-

POLL POSITION

PRESIDENT	VOTES
Aishe Ghosh (Left)	2,313
Manish Jangid (ABVP)	1,128
Jitendra Suna (BAPSA)	1,121
VICE-PRESIDENT	
Saket Moon (Left)	3,365
Shruti Agnihotri (ABVP)	1,335
Rishiraj Yadav (CRJD)	285
GENERAL SECRETARY	
Satish Yadav (Left)	2,518
Sabareesh P.A. (ABVP)	1,355
Waseem R.S. (BAPSA)	1,232
JOINT SECRETARY	
Mohammad Danish (Left)	3,295
Sumanta Sahu (ABVP)	1,508



Newly elected JNUSU leaders take out a victory march on the campus on Tuesday night. ■SHIV KUMAR PUSHAKAR

eration of India, who contested under the broader united Left panel, was declared the president of the JNUSU.

Ms. Ghosh won 2,313 votes, while the runner-up, Manish Jangid from the Akhil Bharatiya Vidyarthi Parishad (ABVP), secured 1,128 votes.

Jitendra Suna from Birsa Ambedkar Phule Students' Association (BAPSA) came third with 1,121 votes. The Chhatra RJD's presidential candidate Priyanka Bharti got 156 votes, while Ragha-vendra Mishra, an Independent candidate, contesting

the post polled 53 votes. For the post of vice-president, united Left panel's Saket Moon secured 3,365 votes, while Shruti Agnihotri from ABVP came second with 1,335 votes.

Satish Yadav from the united Left panel won the gen-

Rapid Metro hearing adjourned

HC to take up matter today; RMGL to continue operations

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
CHANDIGARH

The Punjab and Haryana High Court on Tuesday adjourned the hearing on Gurugram's Rapid Metro and fixed the matter for September 18. The Rapid MetroRail Gurgaon Limited (RMGL) will continue to operate and manage the service till Wednesday.

The petitioners – Haryana Mass Rapid Transport Corporation Limited (HMRTCL) and Haryana Shehri Vikas Pradhikaran (HSVP) – submitted before the Division Bench of the court that an agreement with Delhi Metro Rail Corporation (DMRC) has been signed for the operations of the Rapid Metro.

"We have signed an agree-

ment with the DMRC. We are ready to takeover the operations and maintenance of Rapid Metro, but we need assistance of the court so that the process of taking and handing over is carried out smoothly. We don't want the operations of the metro to suffer in the takeover process," said senior advocate Chetan Mittal, appearing for HMRTCL.

Hearing today

Mr. Mittal told reporters that the case has been fixed for next hearing on September 18. "The RMGL will continue to operate and manage the metro till then," he said.

Mr. Mittal said that as petitioner they submitted before the court that the payment of

debt amount for transfer has to be settled, which should be audited by a government agency. "The respondents during the hearing said that they are ready to continue operations unless the debt is finalised," said Mr. Mittal.

The HMRTCL and HSVP had approached the High Court challenging the validity of the termination notice and sought the court's directions on continuity of the metro by RMGL and Rapid MetroRail Gurgaon South Limited [RMGSL], the two special purpose vehicles floated by IL&FS for the project. The IL&FS is facing bankruptcy proceedings in the National Company Law Appellate Tribunal, putting the metro service at risk of closure.

Woman raped by two in Sunlight Colony park

'Victim found in semi-conscious state'

STAFF REPORTER
NEW DELHI

A 20-year-old woman was allegedly raped by two men in a park in south-east Delhi's Sunlight Colony on Sunday night, the police said on Tuesday. The police have registered a case but no arrests have been made so far.

A senior police officer said that the victim was found in a semi-conscious state in a park near Sarai Kale Khan by passersby who had come for a walk on Monday morning. When the police reached the spot, the victim was rushed to AIIMS Trauma Centre where she is undergoing treatment. External injuries were found

on her body, sources said.

During investigation, it has been revealed that the woman, a beggar who used to sleep on the footpath near Sarai Kale Khan, was on her usual spot when the two accused came and offered her food. They allegedly took her inside the park where they took turns to rape her and fled the spot.

The police said the victim appears to be mentally unfit and she is being counselled.

The two accused also reside nearby and are suspected to be ragpickers, sources said. Teams have been formed to nab the two, the officer said.

'Wanted to stay away from court'

STAFF REPORTER
NEW DELHI

Days after an eight-month-old boy was found dead in Netaji Subhash University of Technology, the parents allegedly told police that he was hit by a staffer's car.

A police officer said that the victim's parents told the police on Monday that the child was hit by lab assistant R.K. Gupta's car. The victim's parents had initially stated that the child fell from a height. "When asked why they lied, they said that they didn't want to go through court proceedings," the officer said. On September 13, the boy was found with a head injury.

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DELHI 🌤️ Timings			
WEDNESDAY, SEPT. 18			
☀️ RISE	06:07	🌇 SET	18:23
🌙 RISE	21:00	🌅 SET	09:28
THURSDAY, SEPT. 19			
☀️ RISE	06:08	🌇 SET	18:22
🌙 RISE	21:37	🌅 SET	10:22
FRIDAY, SEPT. 20			
☀️ RISE	06:08	🌇 SET	18:21
🌙 RISE	22:18	🌅 SET	11:19
<hr/>			
Delhi Weather	max	min	
Delhi City	37	28	
Safdarjang	37	28	
Palam	36	25	

Delhi Palam Today
36°C A humid and hazy morning. Day will be warm and uneasy with partly cloudy sky. Short spell of light rain is likely at isolated places.

Delhi Palam Tomorrow
34°C A warm and humid weather with cloudy sky to continue. Short spell of light rain will affect at few places.

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THE HINDU
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Harvest time



Freshly picked walnuts being dried near the Dal Lake in Srinagar on Tuesday. • NISSAR AHMAD

Body of missing nurse found

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA
BHUBANESWAR
The body of a 23-year-old nurse missing since September 8 was found in Odisha's Jagatsinghpur district, police said on Tuesday.
The body of Niharika Patra was found on Biluakhai river bed near the Nuapari area in Jagatsinghpur district stuffed in a sack with her hands and legs tied with a rope, they said.
The cause of the death can be known only after the post-mortem report, said the sub-divisional police officer of Jagatsinghpur, Prakash Chandra Pal
Mr. Pal said it was suspected to be a case of murder. Niharika, a native of Khurda district, was working as a nurse at a nursing home in Cuttack.

NGT seeks report on steps for gharial conservation

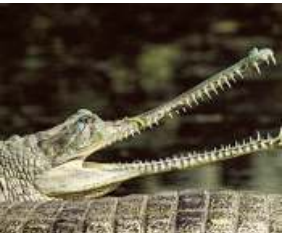
Illegal sand mining worth ₹2 crore taking place on riverbed every day: petitioner

SIDHARTH YADAV
BHOPAL

The National Green Tribunal has directed the Madhya Pradesh government to submit within three weeks separate progress report of the departments concerned on the steps taken according to an action plan to conserve gharial habitat along the Son river.

Stating that the government had filed an additional status report instead of a progress report as directed by it, the NGT held that the status report didn't make clear the action taken so far or what remained to be done.

In an order dated July 31, 2018, the NGT had constituted a committee to prepare an action plan to check ille-



Gharial population is rapidly declining along the Son river

gal mining, conserve gharials and turtles, and maintain a minimum ecological flow downstream the Ban Sagar Dam. While it was asked to frame a plan within a month of its constitution, it had to submit a report within three months. However, it submitted the report only in February this year.

The petition, filed by Nityanand Mishra, flagged the

declining population of gharials along a 200-km stretch of the river due to illegal sand mining.

Contending that even the Forest Department and the police were unable to check it, Mr. Mishra said that according to the IUCN, their population has declined by 96-98% since 1946, despite the Centre declaring it a protected species under the Wildlife Protection Act, 1972.

Intense fishing

"The increasing intensity of fishing using gill nets, and large-scale illegal and impermissible mining activity in the protected area of the Son Gharial Sanctuary along the Son river is rapidly killing many of the scarce adults and many sub-adults," said

Mr. Mishra.

"Earlier there were between 400 and 600 gharials in the area and later their population went down to 18 in 2004. Now there are 45 gharials. Mafia kills gharials selectively and illegal sand mining worth ₹2 crore takes place on the riverbed every day," Mr. Mishra told *The Hindu*.

MCBT study

The petitioner quoted a study by the Madras Crocodile Bank Trust which highlighted the excessive, irreversible loss of riverine habitat caused by the construction of the Ban Sagar Dam, changes in the river's course, artificial embankments and large-scale illegal sand mining.

₹170 cr. provided to ineligible persons under govt. scheme'

Fake beneficiaries included govt. employees, pensioners

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
BHUBANESWAR

A sum of ₹170 crore was provided to 3.41 lakh ineligible persons under the Krushak Assistance for Livelihood and Income Augmentation (KALIA) scheme, the Odisha government has found.

The money was transferred to the bank accounts of the beneficiaries under the scheme that was conceived and implemented before the simultaneous Lok Sabha and Assembly elections in the State.

Although one member of a family was eligible for getting benefits under the scheme, the government found that three lakh people belonged to families with multiple beneficiaries. Besides, fake beneficiaries under the scheme included 20,000 government employees and pensioners, 12,000 big farmers and 9,000 minor boys and girls.

The government had started the process of verification in the first week of August to exclude ineligible beneficiaries and include the deserving families.

Refund plan

Giving details of the verification exercise, Agriculture Minister Arun Kumar Sahoo told journalists on Tuesday that big farmers who had been paid assistance would be encouraged to refund the money.

As for the three lakh ineligible beneficiaries, Mr. Sa-

hoo said the assistance released to them would be adjusted in the subsequent instalments that would be extended to their families under the scheme.

The government employees and pensioners who had received assistance will be asked to refund the amount or else the amount will be deducted from their salary/pension, said Mr. Sahoo.

The Minister further said that any genuine beneficiary who feels that he or she has been wrongly excluded can apply online through the website kalia.co.in with complete documents and steps for inclusion will be taken after verification of the papers.

Shiromani Akali Dal to contest Haryana polls

Forms panel for talks with BJP on seat-sharing

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
CHANDIGARH

The BJP's ally, the Shiromani Akali Dal, on Tuesday declared that it would contest the upcoming Assembly elections in Haryana.

A meeting of the core committee of the party held here presided by SAD chief Sukhbir Singh Badal also passed a resolution saying regional languages serve as an inalienable symbol of the rich multicultural character of our federal and democratic polity.

Spokesperson Harcharan Singh Bains said the party had decided to hold a workers' meeting in Kurukshetra on September 22 to screen candidates interested in contesting the elections. "Interested candidates had already been asked to submit their applications by September 22."



SAD chief Sukhbir Badal

Mr. Bains said a committee headed by senior leader Sardar Balwinder Singh Bhunder would hold negotiations with the BJP on seat-sharing in the polls which are due next month.

Special resolutions

The core committee also passed two special resolutions. "In one, the SAD urged the government of India to order an immediate release of all Sikh prisoners languishing in different jails

throughout the country despite having served their stipulated sentence. In the other, it reiterated its strong and principled commitment to the perseverance and promotion of the Punjabi language.

Campaign panels

Meanwhile, the party president Sukhbir Singh Badal set up a campaign committees for Jalalabad and Dakha by-elections.

While former Cabinet Minister and senior leader Janmeja Singh Sekhon will be the campaign in-charge for Jalalabad constituency, senior vice-president Daljit Singh Cheema will head the panel for Dakha, said Bains.

The core committee, in its meeting, also mourned the demise of former Finance Minister Arun Jaitley and paid glowing tributes to him.

700 kg of cannabis seized in U.P.

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA
VARANASI

Nearly 700 kg of cannabis was seized here and two members of an inter-State drug trafficking gang were arrested by the Special Task Force of the Uttar Pradesh police, officials said on Tuesday.

The seizure was made on National Highway 2 when a container truck loaded with the cannabis was intercepted in the Rohaniya police station area after a tip-off on Monday, the officials said.

The action was carried out by officials of the Varanasi unit of the STF and Narcotics Control Bureau.

Will consider giving land titles to saints: Kamal Nath

Spiritual power unites us, says M.P. Chief Minister

STAFF REPORTER
BHOPAL

Heeding a demand of saints for land titles, Madhya Pradesh Chief Minister Kamal Nath said here on Tuesday that if the government could give land titles to industrialists and businessmen, why not give them to saints and hermits as well.

"Our country is not known for its economy or military power," he said, "It is known for its spiritual power. The entire world looks at us in wonder. There is no country like ours with such diversity. Yet, spiritual power unites us, and the country stands under one flag."

He was addressing a congregation of saints and hermits from across the country at the 'Sant Samagam Sammelan', organised by the State Department of Spirituality.



CM Kamal Nath

Exhorting saints to direct the youth, especially those living in cities, to spirituality, he said, it was their duty to make sure youngsters didn't lose track and remained connected to spiritual power.

"Almost 35 years ago, I had said in the Lok Sabha that we had created so many departments, yet most importantly, there was a need for Adhyatmik Vibhag [Spirituality Department]," said Mr. Nath.

Chinmayanand 'ill' after student's statement

Doctor says condition 'fine', had suffered electrolyte imbalance due to diarrhoea

OMAR RASHID
LUCKNOW

Former Union Minister Swami Chinmayanand, who is accused of raping a law student, is reported to have taken ill following bouts of diarrhoea, hours after the complainant recorded her statement at a local court in Shahjahanpur.

The former BJP MP's aides released photos of Mr. Chinmayanand lying on a divan at his residence, with medical equipment attached to him. A team of doctors from a government hospital as well as private doctors, including a



Swami Chinmayanand at his residence in Shahjahanpur on Monday. • PTI

cardiologist, attended to him. M.L. Agarwal, a physician who treated him, said Mr.

Former Chief Minister Digvijaya Singh said, "Wearing orange robes, people are selling *churan* [power]. Wearing orange robes, rapes are happening. Rapes are happening in temples. Is this our religion? Those who've disrespected our Sanatana religion, even God won't forgive them."

Veiled jibe

In a veiled jibe at the BJP, Mr. Nath said, "When I entered here, I thought it was a happy day. But then someone must be feeling pain in their stomach, you know who, right? They are those who publicise they've taken the contract of religion."

"When we enter temples, hold such functions or even talk of religion, they feel pain," added Mr. Nath.

Representing the saints, 'Computer' Baba, said they stood by the Congress.

Man seeks protection to cremate parents

STAFF REPORTER
BHUBANESWAR

A man on Tuesday sought police protection for performing the last rites of his parents, who were lynched by fellow villagers in connection with an alleged witch-hunt incident in Odisha's Balangir district.

Chintamani Bariha, 55, and his wife Rukmuni Bariha, 50, were beaten to death in Chitakamal village on Monday.

The police had recovered their bodies packed in sacks from a hill, about 3 km from the village.

The villagers had accused the couple of practising black magic after they discovered flower, vermilion and other worship items near a burial place where 18-month-old infant was buried.

The bodies of the couple are lying in a hospital.

कार्यपालक अभियन्ता का कार्यालय,
पेयजल एवं स्वच्छता प्रमण्डल, हजारीबाग

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पेयजल एवं स्वच्छता प्रमण्डल, हजारीबाग अन्तर्गत आमंत्रित निविदा (Hesalong Tongi & Adjoining Rural Pipe Water Supply Scheme) P.R. No.- 215307 (Drinking Water and Sanitation) 19-20*D को अपरिहार्य कारणवश आंशिक संशोधन किया जाता है—

Sl. No.	Name of Work	After Amendment
5	Last date submission cost of BOQ and EMD (in hard copy)	Date:- 28.09.2019 upto 03.00 PM in the office of the (1) Executive Engineer, D. W. & S. Division, Hazaribagh (2) Superintending Engineer, D. W. & S. Circle, Hazaribagh (3) Regional Chief Engineer, D. W. & S. Department Ranchi Zone Ranchi

कार्यपालक अभियन्ता
पेयजल एवं स्वच्छता प्रमण्डल, हजारीबाग
PR 217094 (Drinking Water and Sanitation)19-20#D

कार्यपालक अभियन्ता का कार्यालय,
पेयजल एवं स्वच्छता प्रमण्डल, हजारीबाग।

--- शुद्धि पत्र ---

पेयजल एवं स्वच्छता प्रमण्डल, हजारीबाग अन्तर्गत आमंत्रित निविदा (Budha Mahadeo & Adjoining Rural Pipe Water Supply Scheme) P.R. No.- 215306 (Drinking Water and Sanitation) 19-20*D को अपरिहार्य कारणवश आंशिक संशोधन किया जाता है—

Sl. No.	Name of Work	After Amendment
5	Last date submission cost of BOQ and EMD (in hard copy)	Date:- 28.09.2019 upto 03.00 PM in the office of the (1) Executive Engineer, D. W. & S. Division, Hazaribagh (2) Superintending Engineer, D. W. & S. Circle, Hazaribagh (3) Regional Chief Engineer, D. W. & S. Department Ranchi Zone Ranchi

कार्यपालक अभियन्ता
पेयजल एवं स्वच्छता प्रमण्डल, हजारीबाग।
PR 217092 (Drinking Water and Sanitation)19-20 (D)

GOVERNMENT OF JHARKHAND
ROAD CONSTRUCTION DEPARTMENT
OFFICE OF THE EXECUTIVE ENGINEER
ROAD DIVISION, DUMKA, JHARKHAND
e-Procurement Notice
For National Competitive Bidding
e Tender Reference No. RCD/DUMKA/1342 Date- 14.09.2019

Sl. No.	Name of the work	Details
1.	Name of the work	Reconstruction of Baraplati (at SH-17) to Tharimore(at MDR-191) Road including Bridge over Bhurbhuri river (Total length-17.125 km for the year 2019-20.
2(a)	Approximate value of Work (Rs. In Lacs)	Rs 3737.00959 Lacs (Rupees Thirty seven crore thirty seven lac nine hundred fifty nine only.)
(b)	Bid Security (Rs In Lacs)	Rs 37.38 Lacs
3.	Time of Completion	Fifteen Months
4.	Last date/Time for receipt of bids	12.10.2019 Up to 12.00 Noon.
5	Date of Publication of Tender on website	21.09.2019 AT 10.30 A.M
6.	Name & address of office Inviting tender	Executive Engineer Road Division, Dumka
7.	Contact no. of Procurement officer	9431178289
8.	Helpline number of e-Procurement cell	0651-2401010

Further details can be seen on website
<http://jharkhandtenders.gov.in> Executive Engineer
Road Construction Department
Road Division, Dumka Pin-814101

PR216994 (Road)19-20*D **बुंद - बुंद नहीं बरतेंगे तो बुंद को तरसेंगे**

GOVERNMENT OF JHARKHAND
DEPARTMENT OF TOURISM, ART CULTURE,SPORTS AND YOUTH AFFAIRS (TOURISM)
Director Ph. : 0651-2400493,
Fax : 2400492, Email : dirjharkhandtourism@gmail.com

SELECTION & APPOINTMENT OF CONSULTANT FOR DESIGN & SUPERVISION FOR CHALET HOUSE, NETARHAT
Tender Notice
Ref. No.- Tou./Dir./Plan - 33/2019- 1297 / Ranchi, Dated :13/09/2019

The Directorate of Tourism (DoT), Govt. of Jharkhand as an endeavor for promotion of tourism and culture of Jharkhand state intends to select a Consultant for Design & Supervision for Chalet House, Netarhat.

Interested agencies may download the document from **15/09/2019** onwards from the Department of Tourism website:-www.jharkhandtourism.gov.in/ and submit their Applications. The Application Due Date is on **11/10/2019** at 14:00 hours.

A pre-application conference will be held on **23/09/2019** by 15:00 Hours at MDI Building, 2nd floor, HEC Campus, Dhurwa, Ranchi-04, Tel Phone: 0651-2400493, **e-mail:** dirjharkhandtourism@gmail.com.

All subsequent notifications, changes and amendments will be posted only on the website www.jharkhandtourism.gov.in.

Directorate of Tourism reserves the right to reject any or all proposals and annul the selection process at any time without assigning any reason whatsoever.

Sd/-
Director,
Tourism.

जिसे अनाक ना संपने, को कहुनी हुँ, मुझे खरिद भात को पानी हुँ।
P.R.216951 Tourism, Art Culture Sports And Youth Affairs(19-20):D

Govt. of Jharkhand
Energy Department
Jharkhand Renewable Energy Development Agency (JREDA)
3rd Floor, S.L.D.C. Building, Kusai Colony, Doranda, Ranchi-834002.
Ph.: 0651-2491161, Fax: 0651-2491165,
E-mail: info@jreda.com; Website: www.jreda.com

e-Procurement Notice
Tender reference no.: 12/JREDA/GCRT/RC/19-20
Dated: 13.09.2019

Online bids are invited for Rate Contract for Design, Manufacture, Testing, Supply, Installation & Commissioning of Grid connected Rooftop SPV Power Plants of different capacities including five years Comprehensive Maintenance Contract (CMC) on Turnkey basis on Government Buildings anywhere in the state of Jharkhand (JREDA). The details are as follows:

Sl. No.	Name of the work	Details
1	Name of the work	Rate Contract for Design, Manufacture, Testing, Supply, Installation & Commissioning of Grid connected Rooftop SPV Power Plants of different capacities including five years Comprehensive Maintenance Contract (CMC) on Turnkey basis on Government Buildings anywhere in the state of Jharkhand
2	Estimated cost (Rs.)	Rs. 1,42,80,00,000/-
3	Tentative quantity (kWp)	15000 kWp
4	Period of Contract	12 (Six) Months
5	Date of publication of NIT on website: http://jharkhandtenders.gov.in	16.09.2019 (Monday)
6	Date & time of Pre-bid meeting	24.09.2019 (Tuesday) at 1.00 P.M.
7	Last date & time for receipt of online bids	09.10.2019 (Wednesday) upto 05:00 PM
8	Submission of original copies of Bid fee & EMD (Offline)	09.10.2019 and 10.10.2019 up to 5.00 P.M.
9	Technical Bid Opening Date	11.10.2019 (Friday) at 12:30 P.M.
10	Name & address of office inviting tender	Jharkhand Renewable Energy Development Agency(JREDA) 3 rd Floor, SLDC Building, Kusai, Doranda, Ranchi- 834002 (Jharkhand)
11	Contact no. of procurement officer	0651-2491163/67/61
12	Helpline no. of e-procurement	0651-2491163/67/61

Any corrigendum/addendum can be seen on website: <http://jharkhandtenders.gov.in> & www.jreda.com. Further details can be seen on website: <http://jharkhandtenders.gov.in> & www.jreda.com

बुंद - बुंद नहीं बरतेंगे तो बुंद को तरसेंगे **Sd/-**
Director,
JREDA, Ranchi

PR 216982 (Energy) 19-20 (D)

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श्री पी. मेहता, श्री मधुर कोटरे, श्री पीयूष यादव,
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Subject: Transfer of ownership of
House No. 789, Ground Floor, Sector-3,
Faridabad, in respect of 100%
share on the basis of Sale Deed.
Smt. Lissy Abraham W/o Sh. Abraham
Antony R/o House No. 790-A,
Sector-3, Faridabad (Haryana)
has purchased the House No. 789, Ground
Floor, HUDA Colony, Sector-3, Urban
Estate Faridabad from Sh. Sadik Khan S/o
Sh. Ram Jani R/o C/O DTP Office, Sector-09,
Faridabad through his G.P.A. Sh. Abraham
Anthony by virtue of Sale Deed document
No. 12691, dated 17.03.2017, Registered
in the office of Sub-Registrar,
Ballabgarh, District Faridabad, Haryana,
and Sh. Sadik Khan S/o Sh. Ram Jani was
the Owner as per Deed of Conveyance of
Building Site Sold By Allotment Document
No. 292 dated 10.11.2003, Registered in the
office of Sub-Registrar, Ballabgarh District,
Faridabad Haryana, in the record of HUDA
(NOW HSPV).

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NOTICE REGARDING
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website:
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CIN:
L05005AP1987PLC018436
I, Manoj Nakra,
residing at W5A20
Mandiram, Anantpur
Dist., AP 515134, am
the registered
holder of the
undermentioned
shares held in the
above company,
hereby give notice
that the share
certificates in respect
of the said shares
have lost and I have
applied to the
company for issue of
duplicate share
certificates. Any
person having claim
in respect of the said
shares should lodge
such claims with the
company at the above
address within 15
days from this date,
else the company will
proceed to issue
duplicate certificates
and no further claim
will be entertained by
the company
thereafter.
Folio number
00000374. Fifteen
hundred (1500)
equity shares of Rs. 10
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each for 100 shares.
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Represented by its Assistant
General Manager, Stressed Assets
Management Branch, No.32,
Montieth Road, Red Cross Building
Egmore, Chennai-600008.
...Applicant
-Vs-
1. **M/s. Tecpro Infra Projects Limited**, Having its registered
office at No.106, Vishwadeep
Tower, Plot No.4, District Centre,
Janakpuri, New Delhi 110 058
And Corporate office at:
Tecpro Towers, 11-A17, 5th
Cross Road, SIPCOT I.T.Park,
Siruseri, Chennai-603 103.
2. **M/s. Tecpro Engineers Ltd**
Represented by its Directors,
No.106, Vishwadeep Tower,
Plot No.4, District Centre,
Janakpuri, New Delhi-110 058.
3. **M/s. Tecpro Infotech Pvt Ltd**,
Represented by its Directors,
No.106, Vishwadeep Tower,
Plot No.4, District Centre,
Janakpuri, New Delhi-110 058.
4. **M/s. Citizen Communications Ltd**, Represented by its Directors
Plot No.113, Vikram Sarabhai
Electronic and Electric Estate,
Perungudi, Chennai-600 096.
And, No.1, ROYAL COURT,
#982, Lakshmanasamy Road,
K.K.Nagar, Chennai-600 078.
...Defendants
SUMMONS TO DEFENDANTS
THROUGH SUBSTITUTED SERVICE
The above **Original Application**
filed by the Applicant Bank to
recover the claim amount
Rs.8,52,51,678.26 (Rupees Eight
Crores Fifty Two Lakhs Fifty One
Thousand Six Hundred Seventy
Eight and Twenty Six Paise Only)
against you stands posted on
03.10.2019 before Hon'ble Debts
Recovery Tribunal-II Chennai at
11.30 a.m. for your appearance
failing which orders will be passed
in your absence.
M/s.M.L.Ganesh & S.Arjun Kumar
Counsel for Applicant

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GOVERNMENT OF JAMMU AND KASHMIR
Resident Commission
5, Prithviraj Road, New Delhi - 110011
Telephones: 011-24611108, 24611210, Fax Nos: 24601277, 24627047
E-mail: jksdelhi@gmail.com
NOTICE
In continuance to the Tender Notice issued vide No.
KRC/MTO/47/4483/19 dated 28.08.2019 and
published on 31.08.2019, all the concerned are
informed that the tenders for supply of cars on hire
charge basis, could not be opened due to some
exigency. The date and time for opening of these
tenders will be notified separately.
No: KBI/AdvT/1846-47/2019 Chief Pay & Accounts Officer
Dated: 13.09.2019 Resident Commission
No: KRC/MTO/47/4861A-B-C/19
Dated: 12.09.2019

Tripura Renewable Energy Development Agency (TREDA)
(A Constituent Organization of Department of Power, Government of Tripura),
Vigyan Bhawan, Pandit Nehru Complex, Gorkhabasti,
Agartala, Tripura, Ph-0381-2325900(Fax), 2326139,
email- tredaagartala@gmail.com
No.F.6 (181)/TREDA/NCES/2019/ 1639 Date 13/09/2019
Press Notice Inviting e-Tender
Tripura Renewable Energy Development Agency [TREDA] invites online
e-Tender for the following work:-
Name of Work:- Supply, installation & commissioning of HDPE/PVC/FRP
material based pre-fabricated Family size KVIC Design Floating Type Bio-
gas Plant in Tripura including post-installation Maintenance & Performance
Warranty/Guarantee Contract for 5 years on turn-key basis.
The last date of submission of e-Tender: 25/09/2019 at 4:00 P.M
The tender forms & other details can be obtained from the website
<https://tripuratenders.gov.in>.
Sd/-
(D.S.Das)
Joint Director

कार्यपालक अभियन्ता का कार्यालय,
पेयजल एवं स्वच्छता प्रमण्डल, हजारीबाग
:- शुद्धि पत्र :-
पेयजल एवं स्वच्छता प्रमण्डल, हजारीबाग अन्तर्गत आमंत्रित निविदा
(Bundu & Adjoining Rural Pipe Water Supply Scheme)
P.R. No.: 215493 (Drinking Water and Sanitation) 19-
20*D को अपरिहार्य कारणवश आंशिक संशोधन किया जाता है-

Sl. No.	Name of Work	After Amendment
5	Last date submission cost of BOQ and EMD (in hard copy)	Date:- 28.09.2019 upto 03.00 PM in the office of the (1) Executive Engineer, D. W. & S. Division, Hazaribagh (2) Superintending Engineer, D. W. & S. Circle, Hazaribagh (3) Regional Chief Engineer, D. W. & S. Department Ranchi Zone Ranchi कार्यपालक अभियन्ता पेयजल एवं स्वच्छता प्रमण्डल, हजारीबाग बुंद - बुंद नहीं बरसेंगे तो बुंद को तरसेंगे PR 217096 (Drinking Water and Sanitation)19-20*D

APPEAL FOR IDENTIFICATION
General public is hereby informed that this
person **Named:** Unknown, **S/o:** Unknown, **R/o:**
Unknown, **Age:** 50 years, **Sex:** Male, **Height:** 5
feet, **Complexion:** Shallow, **Wearing:** White
with Balck Dharidadar T-shirt & Blue Colour
Nikker, has been found at dead in Park Under
Zakhira Flyover, Delhi, on dated 06.09.2019.
In this regard a DD No. 36-A, dated 06-09-2019 has been
registered at P.S. Sarai Rohilla, Delhi.
Sincere efforts have been made by local police to trace out
information about this person but no clue has come to light so far.
Any person having any information or clue about this person may
kindly inform to the following.
SHO
PS. Sarai Rohilla, Delhi
DP/427/N/19 **Ph.: 011-23693611, 8750870131**

APPEAL FOR IDENTIFICATION
General public is hereby informed that
one male was found dead at Middle
Footpath Ring Road, Under Barapulla
Flyover, Delhi at 13:53 Hrs on
05/09/2019. In this regard a **DD No. 34-A**
Dated 05.09.2019 has been lodged at
P.S. Sun Light Colony, Delhi. The
description of the dead body is given as
under:
Name: Unknown, **S/o:** Unknown, **R/o:**
Unknown, **Age:** 45 years, **Height:** 170 cms, **Injury:** Right Hand to
elbow injured **Complexion:** Shallow, **Wearing:** Red T-Shirt &
Army coloured pant.
Sincere efforts have been made by local police to trace out the
information about the dead male but no clue has come to light so
far. If any one is having any information about this dead male
please inform the undersigned.
S.H.O
P.S. Sun Light Colony, Delhi.
Ph. No. 011-26347982, 26348324
DP/7817/SE/19

APPEAL FOR IDENTIFICATION
General public is hereby
informed that an unidentified
dead body of male **Age :** 40
years, **Height :** 5'2",
Complexion : Shallow,
Wearing: Red colour capri
only has been found at Nepali
Park, ISBT, Kashmir Gate,
Delhi on 08.09.2019. In this
regard a case vide DD No : 18-
Kashmere Gate, Delhi.
Any person having any information or clue about this
found dead body may kindly inform to the following:-
SHO :
P.S. Kashmere Gate, Delhi
North Distt., Delhi
DP/426/N/19 **Tel. No. 011-23968730, 23967889**

IN BRIEF



Shivakumar sent to 14 days judicial custody

NEW DELHI
A Delhi court on Tuesday remanded former Karnataka Minister D.K. Shivakumar to judicial custody for 14 days in a money laundering case. Special judge Ajay Kumar Kuhar directed the ED to take Mr. Shivakumar first to the Ram Manohar Lohia Hospital for a check up, and then to the prison.

Malayalam actor Sathar is no more

KOZHIKODE
Sathar, who died of liver ailment at the age of 67 in Aluva on Tuesday, was the smiling villain of Malayalam cinema for a long time. His career spanned for four decades. Jayabharathi, his estranged wife, is also a famous actor, while his son Krish J. Sathar has acted in a few films.

Naidu demands CBI probe into former A.P. Speaker's death

TDP and YSRCP leaders trade charges on causing him mental anguish

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
HYDERABAD/VIJAYAWADA
A day after the former Speaker of the Andhra Pradesh Assembly, Kodela Sivaprasada Rao's suspected suicide, Telugu Desam Party (TDP) and the YSR Congress Party (YSRCP) traded charges against each other. TDP president N. Chandrababu Naidu has demanded that the Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI) be asked to probe the death of Dr. Rao.

Dr. Rao's body was shifted from Hyderabad to Guntur, and his funeral will take place on Wednesday. The TDP president described the former Speaker's untimely death as "murder" committed by the Andhra Pradesh government, and said there was need for a debate across the State and the



Tearful adieu: People paying floral tributes to former A.P. Speaker Kodela Siva Prasada Rao on Tuesday. • V. RAJU

country on the vindictive policies being adopted by the YSRCP government led by Chief Minister Y.S. Jagan Mohan Reddy. "He was harassed psychologically, physically and financially by the government, which registered cases against him," Mr. Nai-

du said at a press conference in Hyderabad. He recalled that Kodela Sivaprasada Rao had addressed a letter on June 20 to the A.P. Assembly Speaker and the Legislature Secretary asking them to finalise the cost of the furniture that was used in his camp office.

But a First Information Report was registered by the police two days later, on the basis of a complaint filed by Narasaraopet YSRCP MLA G. Srinivas Reddy. This was followed by the filing of 19 cases, including those related to extortion, forgery and SC/ST (Prevention of Atrocities). YSRCP leaders, on the other hand, held Mr. Naidu responsible for the alleged suicide. Speaking to reporters at separate press conferences in Vijayawada, State Civil Supplies Minister Kodali Sri Venkateswara Rao, Government Chief Whip G. Srikanth Reddy and PAC member Ambati Rambabu alleged that Mr. Naidu had humiliated him on many counts and had not given him due respect in the party.

Kerala to seek legal option to avoid razing in Maradu

It plans to send all-party team to Delhi

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
THIRUVANANTHAPURAM
An all-party meeting chaired by Kerala Chief Minister Pinarayi Vijayan here on Tuesday endorsed the government's decision to seek all possible legal recourse to prevent the Supreme Court order to raze the four illegal apartment blocks at Maradu panchayat in Ernakulam by September 20 for violating stringent coastal zone regulations. The Supreme Court will be taken into confidence and the court's approval will be sought to prevent the demolishing of the apartment blocks, in which over 400

families are staying, the Chief Minister told the meeting. It was also decided to send an all-party delegation to New Delhi, if needed, to talk to the Union government. The Centre had the powers to grant concessions in such cases under environment laws and the government was hoping for a favourable action from the Union government, he said. Already, the State has written to the Union Ministry of Forests, Environment and Climate on the likely environment problems and Mr. Vijayan had personally spoken to the Union Minister.

SC considers giving actor Dileep access to memory card

'It can be used only to formulate defence, for no other cause'

KRISHNADAS RAJAGOPAL
NEW DELHI
The Supreme Court considered allowing Malayalam actor Dileep, who is an accused in the kidnap and sexual assault of an actress, access to a copy of a memory card containing visuals of the attack on the express condition that he uses it only for preparing his defence in the trial.

The victim, however, countered that handing over a cloned copy of the memory card would run the risk of the visuals being leaked. This would amount to tram-



Dileep

pling on her fundamental right to privacy. The court should balance her right to privacy with Mr. Dileep's right to fair trial. Justice Khanwilkar said,

"it [card] can be given on one condition that they use it only to formulate their defence and for no other purpose." The court reserved the case for orders after a day-long hearing. Senior advocate Mukul Rohatgi, for Mr. Dileep, said: "My client is the number one actor in Kerala. If she says giving me a copy of the memory card would be a violation of her privacy, then what about her attack on my fundamental right to reputation by describing me in court as the 'mastermind' of the alleged crime?"

Solitary wait



Mourning alone: A woman, who lost her family members in the Godavari boat mishap, waiting for their bodies at Devipatnam on banks of the river in East Godavari district on Tuesday. The accident toll touched 27 as 18 more bodies were retrieved on Tuesday. • S. RAMBABU

CBI produces new witness in Abhaya case

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
THIRUVANANTHAPURAM
The CBI on Tuesday tried to spring a surprise on the defence during the high-profile Sister Abhaya case trial. The agency produced a retired professor who had taught Abhaya at BCM College for Women, Kottayam, in the early 1990s as a new witness for the prosecution.

Fr. Thomas Kottor and Fr. Jose Puthrikayil were members of the college faculty at the time. The CBI produced her as a witness for the prosecution. Ms. Thressia told CBI special court judge K. Sanilkumar that the conduct of the priests in the environs of the ladies-only college often appeared to be predatory. Several students had complained to her that they had felt acutely uncomfortable in the presence of the accused.

Judge recuses from Karnataka MLAs case

'Conscience didn't allow me to hear it'

LEGAL CORRESPONDENT
NEW DELHI
The Supreme Court hearing of petitions filed by several disqualified MLAs from Karnataka challenging their ouster from the State Assembly by former Speaker Ramesh Kumar under the anti-defection law was a non-starter on Tuesday, with one of the judges on the Bench, Justice Mohan M. Shantanagoudar, recusing from the case. Justice Shantanagoudar said his conscience did not allow him to hear the case. He hails from Karnataka. The Bench was led by Justice N.V. Ramana and also comprises Justice Ajay Rastogi.

Firm decision
On the insistence of senior advocate Mukul Rohatgi, who appeared for the form-

er legislators, another Bench will hear the case next Monday. Senior advocate Kapil Sibal, who appeared for the former Speaker, urged Justice Shantanagoudar to stay on. However, after a brief discussion later among the judges on the Bench, Justice Ramana, who is the lead judge, said Justice Shantanagoudar was firm in his decision to bow out. The former legislators, including Prathapgouda Patil and A.H. Vishwanath, had approached the court jointly and separately. Their petitions have arraigned the then Speaker, the State of Karnataka, Congress Legislature Party leader Siddaramaiah, State Congress chief Dinesh Gundurao and former Karnataka Chief Minister H.D. Kumaraswamy as respondents.

DRDO's UAV crashes into arecanut farm in Karnataka

Cause of accident is under investigation

STAFF REPORTER
CHITRADURGA
An Unmanned Aerial Vehicle (UAV) of the Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO) crashed into an arecanut farm at Kudapura in Chitradurga district in Karnataka's Challakere taluk on Tuesday. The UAV - Tapas-04 ADE 19 - lost contact with the radar around 6.30 a.m. It crashed 15 minutes later into the farm belonging to Anandappa. The farmers who heard the sound, rushed to the spot and tried to locate the pilot. When they did not find the pilot, they informed the police about the crash. DRDO officials rushed to spot and conducted an investigation. They collected the debris of the UAV to find out the exact cause of the crash.



Out of control: An unmanned aerial vehicle of the Defence Research and Development Organisation that crashed in Karnataka's Challakere taluk on Tuesday. • SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT

Researchers find two new plant species in Western Ghats

They belong to the *Asclepiadaceae* or milkweed family

E.M.MANOJ
KALPETTA
A team of researchers has reported the discovery of two new plant species belonging to the *Asclepiadaceae* or milkweed family from the shola forests of the Western Ghats, highlighting its rich biodiversity and the need for a conservation strategy for the fragile ecosystem. Latex in plant parts and pappus seeds are the general characteristics of the family.

Tylophora balakrishnanii, a straggling vine, has been discovered from the Thollayiram shola in Wayanad, a biodiversity hotspot in the Nilgiri biosphere reserve. The tuberous species has been discovered by a team of researchers led by Salim Pitchen, botanist at the M.S. Swaminathan Re-



Tylophora neglecta discovered from the Western Ghats. • SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT

search Foundation (MSSRF) here, and Jose Mathew, Assistant Professor, Department of Botany, SD College, during a recent expedition. The discovery has been published in *NeBio*, an international journal on environment and biodiversity. Flowers of the plant are

reddish pink and the species is similar to the coastal plant *Tylophora flexuosa*. The species has been christened after V. Balakrishnan, member-secretary, Kerala State Biodiversity Board, and former director of the MSSRF, Wayanad, in recognition of his contributions to biodiversity. *Tylophora neglecta* has been discovered from the shola forest on the Thooval Mala hill under the Achencoil division in Kollam. The flowers of the species are white with a violet tinge. Its leaves are thick and bristly in nature, Dr. Mathew said. "We could find five to six *Tylophora balakrishnanii* and 15 to 16 *Tylophora neglecta* plants in the respective areas," Dr. Mathew said.

Ansari lynching: IIM-B faculty, students urge fresh probe

They have pressed their demand in e-mail letter to PM

STAFF REPORTER
BENGALURU
A section of faculty, staff and students of the Indian Institute of Management, Bangalore (IIM-B) have written to Prime Minister Narendra Modi expressing concern over the manner in which the Jharkhand police have handled the lynching of Tabrez Ansari. They have urged Mr. Modi to direct the State government to institute a fresh probe. In an e-mail addressed to the Prime Minister, the group expressed shock and dismay at the Jharkhand police's investigation of the lynching. "We urge you to act swiftly and decisively by directing the State govern-

ment to institute a fresh probe," they wrote. "It is the constitutional duty of the state to protect the life and liberty of all citizens," they added. **'Important to stand up'** Last week, Deepak Malghan, associate professor, Public Policy, who took the initiative and circulated an e-mail to students, staff and faculty, said that as "an academic community, it is important that we stand up to the impunity with which the State has abrogated its Constitutional duty." Over a hundred students and faculty members from the institute are signatories to the letter. Twenty-four-

year-old Tabrez Ansari, who was working as a welder in Pune, had returned to his village Kadamdia, 15 km from the district headquarters Seraikela, to get married on April 27. On June 17, some people from a nearby village caught him and branded him a thief. He was beaten up and forced to chant 'Jai Hanuman' and 'Jai Sriram'. On June 22, he succumbed to injuries, while in judicial custody. It is alleged that Tabrez was not given proper and timely medical attention. The police had dropped murder charges against the accused contending that Tabrez had died of a cardiac arrest due to stress.

Gundert Bungalow in Kerala set to become museum

Structure, owned by the CSI, is being revamped under the Thalassery Heritage Tourism Project

MOHAMED NAZEER
THALASSERY
What used to be a derelict bungalow located on a hill-lock here is being given a facelift to celebrate the life of an illustrious occupant from abroad. He stayed there for 20 years in the mid-19th century and left behind a huge legacy for Malayalam language. Workers are laying cobblestones and flamed granite on the ground outside the sprawling Gundert Bungalow. Its huge wooden window and door frames and panes have been refurbished with a new coat of polish to give them a traditional look. A wooden beam that had developed a big crack is being strengthened. The 19th century roof tiles from Basel Mission tile-making unit in Mangaluru are still intact. If



Getting a facelift: The Gundert Bungalow at Thalassery will be opened as a heritage museum in the first week of November.

the ongoing progress of conservation work is any indication, the bungalow will be opened as a heritage and language museum in the first week of November. Hermann Gundert, the German missionary, wrote the English-Malayalam dictionary during his stay at the

bungalow. He also published two Malayalam journals. One of them, *Rajya Samacharam*, is arguably the forerunner of the contemporary Malayalam newspapers. "Basically, the ongoing first phase work is for the conservation of the bungalow and its adaptive reuse,"

said Vivek P.P., architect and urban designer associated with De Earth and Space Art Calicut, which is carrying out the conservation work. A lot of later day modifications in the historic structure were removed to restore its original look and ambience. As part of the ₹2.10-crore first phase conservation project, the massive structure is being revived under the Thalassery Heritage Tourism Project of the Tourism Department. The bungalow is owned by the Church of South India (CSI). "It has been our dream to turn the Gundert Bungalow into a museum and now, it is expected to be the nucleus of heritage tourism in the region," said Thalassery MLA A.N. Shamseer. He said the CSI Church had given sanction to the Tourism Depart-

ment to turn it into a museum. The veranda on all four sides of the bungalow, which was modified and converted for different uses in the past, has been restored. Traditional cashew oil polishing was done on the wooden roof panels to give them an old-world look. Also, special design doors and windows are being refurbished. Terracotta tiles have been laid on floors wherever they were damaged. One sprawling room of the bungalow has been earmarked for developing into a seminar hall. Tourism officials said German books worth ₹2 crore donated by Mary Elizabeth Mueller, a German academic, for the library and German language study centre at the bungalow had already reached here.



Fire to fuel

India must brace for the impact of oil supply cuts after the drone attacks in Saudi Arabia

The immediate impact of last week's drone attacks on the Saudi Aramco-owned Khurais oilfield and Abqaiq oil processing facility has been the suspension of more than half of Saudi Arabia's daily crude oil output, thereby affecting contribution to global supply. While the Saudis have restored a portion of the supply that was hit, the sudden disruption resulted in the highest spike (nearly 20%) in Brent crude prices in more than a decade before the U.S. President's statement that America would release some of its strategic reserves resulted in the price easing back to \$66 per barrel (a 10% increase over the day). While the Houthi militia fighting Yemen's Saudi Arabia-backed government in a four-year-long civil war claimed responsibility for the attacks, the U.S. has suggested that Iran was responsible for them. After a belligerent statement that the U.S. was "locked and loaded" to respond to this alleged provocation from Iran, Mr. Trump suggested that he was still trying to draw the Iranians to make a deal over their nuclear programme. Iran's response has been to dismiss the allegations accompanied by a refusal to talk on the U.S.'s terms. Yet, for all his bluster and erratic policy decisions, Mr. Trump has sought to avoid conflict or to engage in new military adventures – an opening Iran must seize and work toward de-escalation through diplomacy. Meanwhile, the Saudis must halt their Yemen intervention and leave it to the UN to broker peace in a battered country. The Saudi-led military campaign, buttressed with logistics support from the U.S. and the U.K., has only brought a stalemate in Yemen, while escalating the conflict to include energy supply targets that the world had imagined to be secure.

The sudden disruption of global crude oil supply is the unintended consequence of the unravelling of the painstakingly crafted P5+1+EU-Iran nuclear deal, the Saudis' reckless adventure in Yemen and the Iranian empowerment of its proxies in West Asia as a response. This development is bound to affect several emerging economies, including India's. The Union Petroleum Ministry has sought to allay fears of a supply cut by relaying messages of assurance from Aramco officials, but there is already an indication that crude prices would rise further due to an increase in the risk premium, leading to increased fuel pump costs. With India importing more than two-thirds of its oil from West Asia, a price surge is expected to impact the current account, and will result in further currency depreciation as was the case on Monday. Higher fuel costs and the imported inflation could also hurt the consumer at a time of a slowdown in the economy. The government should be prepared to handle the fallout with steps such as re-evaluating the excise duties on petroleum products.

Deadly spread

Overcoming 'vaccine hesitancy' can reduce the global spread of measles infection

With a 30% increase in measles cases worldwide in 2018, the World Health Organization, in January 2019, included 'vaccine hesitancy' as one of the 10 threats to global health this year. The threat from vaccine hesitancy, which is defined as the "reluctance or refusal to vaccinate despite the availability of vaccines", only appears to have grown more dangerous to public health. After a surge in measles cases in 2018, there have been around 3,65,000 measles cases reported from 182 countries in the first six months of 2019. The biggest increase, of 900% in the first six months this year compared with the same period last year, has been from the WHO African region, with the Democratic Republic of the Congo, Madagascar and Nigeria accounting for most cases. There has been a sharp increase in the WHO European region too with 90,000 cases recorded in the first six months – more than the numbers recorded for the whole of 2018. The infection spread in the European region has been unprecedented in recent years – 1,74,000 cases from 49 of the 53 countries between January 2018 and June 2019. Last month the U.K., Greece, the Czech Republic and Albania lost their measles elimination status.

A 2018 report on vaccine confidence among the European Union member states shows why vaccine coverage has not been increasing in the European region to reach over 90% to offer protection even to those not vaccinated. It found younger people (18-34 years) and those with less education are less likely to agree that the measles, mumps, and rubella (MMR) vaccine is safe. According to a March 2019 report, only 52% respondents from 28 EU member states agree that vaccines are definitely effective in preventing diseases, while 33% felt they were probably effective. More alarming is that 48% of the respondents believed that vaccines cause serious side effects and 38% think vaccines actually cause the disease that they are supposed to protect against. A striking similarity was seen in India too. A 2018 study found low awareness to be the main reason why 45% of children missed different vaccinations in 121 Indian districts that have higher rates of unimmunised children. While 24% did not get vaccinated due to apprehension about adverse effects, 11% were reluctant to get immunised for reasons other than fear of adverse effects. Thus, much work remains to be done to address misinformation. With social media playing a crucial role in spreading vaccine disinformation, the commitment by Facebook to "reduce distribution" of vaccine misinformation will be helpful in winning the war against vaccine deniers. Measles vaccine not only provides lifelong protection against the virus but also reduces mortality from other childhood infections. This is because measles viruses kill immune cells, leaving the child vulnerable to infectious diseases for two to three years.

Red Sea redlines and Yemen's inflection point

The civil war may have entered its endgame, crossing two watersheds which could cast a shadow over Indian interests



MAHESH SACHDEV

Yemen is in the south-west corner of the Arabian Peninsula. Though most Yemenis vouch for national unity, the northern and southern parts of the country are two distinct entities. While the north is hilly and fertile and has some oil reserves, the southern part is mostly desert. The country has a population of around 27 million, with most living in the north. With GDP per capita of \$944, which is less than half of India's, Yemen's poverty is a sharp contrast to the oil-riches of her northern neighbours.

The country is a tribal society with a strong sense of identity and kinship. While almost all Yemenis are Muslims, the population in the north is mostly Zaidi which is closer to the Shia sect followed in Iran. The southerners are mostly Sunnis akin to a majority of the Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC) citizens. While the north remains rooted in esoteric Zaidi traditions, the south which was colonised by the British to protect the sea route to India became relatively more westernised. South Yemen also had close links with India – the Nizam of Hyderabad relied on troops from Hadhramaut and the founder of Reliance Industries, Dhirubhai Ambani, began his career in Aden.

A history of conflict

The roots of the current imbroglio can be traced to the 1930s when north Yemen's Imam ceded to the resurgent Kingdom of Saudi Arabia three provinces that many Yemenis still considered theirs. In the 1960s, north Yemen passed through a six-year-long civil war between the Imam's fighters with Saudi support, against the Republican forces backed by Egypt. The civil war resulted in formation of

Yemen Arab Republic in 1968; it also established a quasi-tradition of foreign dabbling in Yemeni politics.

A united Republic of Yemen was finally established in 1990. In 1994, a section of the south tried to secede, but the insurrection was put down after a short civil war. In 2004, the northern Shia militia called "Ansar Allah" began an insurgency led by dissident cleric Hussein Badreddin al-Houthi, head of the Zaidi sect, against President Ali Abdullah Saleh. In November 2011, the Yemeni Arab Spring movement managed to remove Saleh who was replaced by his southern deputy Abdrabbuh Mansour Hadi; Saleh and his clan remained influential till his assassination in 2017. The al-Houthi rebelled against Mr. Hadi, ousting him in 2014 and forcing him to flee to Riyadh where he currently heads an 'internationally recognised' but largely ineffective government of Yemen. Saudi Arabia, apprehensive of an al-Houthi led Yemen becoming a surrogate of Iran (a regional Shia rival), cobbled a military coalition comprising the United Arab Emirates (UAE), Egypt and other Sunni powers, with Pakistan reluctantly opting out. This coalition began a military campaign ("Operation Decisive Storm") against the al-Houthis in March 2015, mostly through aerial bombardment, with army units supporting Mr. Hadi's forces in southern Yemen; it also imposed a naval blockade. Four years on, the civil war has ground to a stalemate, with the al-Houthis hunkering it out in the north. The United Nations has described Yemen to be currently in the grip of the world's worst humanitarian catastrophe, with over 11,000 deaths and 3 million internally displaced.

During the past month, the Yemeni civil war seems to have entered its endgame, crossing two watersheds which could cast a shadow over India's strategic national interests. Though both these developments



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ments were a long-time coming, each arrived with a bang and the potential to alter the future course of the conflict.

Drone attacks fallout

The most significant recent development in the Yemeni war has been the coordinated pre-dawn drone attacks last Saturday on the two Saudi upstream oil facilities at Abqaiq and Khurais. Though al-Houthi militia claimed responsibility, the details (10 drones were said to have engaged 17 targets) and sophistication (accurate hits nearly 1,300 km away from the Yemeni-Saudi border) leaves many questions unanswered. The strikes managed to put 5.7 million barrels per day of crude production out of action – over half of Saudi output and nearly 5% of global supplies. This caused an unprecedented 19% initial surge in oil prices on Monday, with Brent crude topping \$71 a barrel. In a worst case scenario of the hostilities escalating or long-term derailment of Saudi production, oil prices could rise above \$100 a barrel. These game-changing attacks not only mark a dramatic escalation of the conflict but also showcase the efficacy of an asymmetric warfare. With most hydrocarbon assets in the Gulf region currently defenceless against such attacks, this vulnerability is a foretaste of any future conflict in this tension-prone region.

The second development has been the growing rift within the Saudi-led coalition. In July 2019, the UAE announced a drawdown of its forces from Yemen where

they have anchored the coalition ground forces. By the end of August, Yemeni government forces were compelled to withdraw from southern port of Aden leaving it to the UAE-backed units of the Southern Transitional Council (STC), formed in mid-2017.

The STC calls for an independent South Yemen and is vehemently against the presence of Islamists in Yemen such as Islah party (member of Saudi-led coalition), al-Qaeda in the Arabian Peninsula and the Islamic State. The UAE is estimated to have trained and equipped thousands of fighters for the STC and other Yemeni militias. Abu Dhabi has also been expanding its strategic presence in neighbouring Eritrea and Somalia.

Many observers foresee the current civil war coagulating into a de facto division of the Republic of Yemen roughly along the pre-1990 border: between an al-Houthi-led north and an STC-dominated south. Yemeni re-partition, if realised, may strongly impact the intra- and inter-state dynamics from Yemen itself to Yemen-Saudi ties and to the UAE-Iran-Saudi Arabia triangle. Riyadh's inability to attain its objectives in Yemen – despite enormous military resources at its disposal – may have long-term consequences, possibly making it more reliant on the large Sunni states such as Pakistan and Egypt. If a viable South Yemeni state takes shape, the STC's symbiotic ties with the UAE would put Abu Dhabi in the driving seat along the geo-strategic Bab al-Mandeb Strait – a choke point connecting the Arabian Sea with the Red Sea onwards to the Suez Canal.

Indian interests

These two aforementioned developments are significant as most of India's west-bound sea trade passes through Bab al Mandeb. India, therefore, needs to watch the evolving situation carefully and revive long-standing ties with the emerging stakeholders in Yemen,

particularly along the southern coastal belt. The weekend's drone attacks on Saudi oil facilities, too, have direct and serious implications for India as world's third largest crude importer (with Saudi Arabia supplying nearly a fifth). The oil price surge hits India precisely when the economy is already struggling. A rise of oil price by even a dollar raises India's annual oil bill by \$1.5 billion, the country having spent \$112 billion on crude imports in 2018-19.

A highly volatile oil market and a tense regional situation would also affect India's thriving economic engagements as well as its manpower there. Additionally, the attacks could affect Saudi Aramco's ongoing negotiations of two major upstream investments in India totalling over \$30 billion with Reliance Industries and the proposed Ratnagiri Refinery, respectively. In view of direct negative fallout on our interests, India has rightly condemned the Abqaiq-Khurais attacks. Further, it needs to take evasive actions in order to avoid being trapped in the worst case scenario; such steps could include frontloading India's biofuel programme, expanding its strategic petroleum reserves and diversifying its crude sources away from the West Asia.

At a different level, drones could emerge as a weapon of choice for motley anti-Indian non-state actors. Indeed, many of them are no worse than the al-Houthis in their resourcefulness and foreign sponsorships. Much of our infrastructure could be vulnerable to copy-cat attacks using such affordable and effective platforms available virtually off-the-shelf internationally. India's defence and security experts need to urgently devise counter measures to mitigate such vulnerabilities.

Mahesh Sachdev is a former Indian Ambassador to Algeria, Norway and Nigeria, all major oil exporters. He currently heads Eco-Diplomacy and Strategies, New Delhi

In Kashmir, shaking the apple tree

The question is whether the dilution of Article 370 changes anything on the ground in Jammu and Kashmir



TABISH KHAIR

If I did not have a Muslim name, I might have written this article a bit differently. But given my name, there are certain things I cannot say anymore. For instance, I cannot talk of the matter that concerns me here in terms of human rights or the Indian Constitution. To do so would be to invite crude invective questioning of my genuine and deep love for India.

Hence, I do not ask if Article 370 was justified and I do not ask if its dilution by the Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) government was constitutional. I do not even ask if our past and current treatment of the Kashmiri people, both Muslim and Hindu, has been defensible. Instead, I ask the only question permitted to me today because of my name: will it work?

Human rights minefield

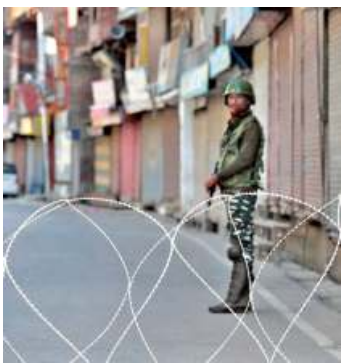
I also ask this question on the basis of a perception shared by most Indians, including many Muslims: that the 'Kashmir problem' was stuck in a quagmire, and any attempt to solve it is welcome. As an Indian Muslim, obviously, I believe that Kashmir is an integral part of

my country. In the past, I would have added that, alas, what matters is not what I believe but what Kashmiris believe. That, however, would be a matter of human rights, and I have vowed not to enter any such minefield.

Hence, from a purely Indian perspective, the BJP government may be congratulated for having taken a bold step. It has definitely shaken the apple tree of Kashmir. All I want to consider now is whether we are going to enjoy an unexpected harvest of apples, or be concussed in the downpour? The dilution of Article 370 has fully inserted our part of Kashmir into India, dissolving its problematic ambiguous status. But has it changed anything on the ground?

The problems of alienation among Kashmiris, militancy, and cross-border support of militants remain intact. These might worsen. There are only two ways they can be partly solved: either by a demographic reshaping of Kashmir and the invasion of Pakistan-occupied Kashmir (PoK), or by winning over Kashmiri hearts. The former option has been dismissed by the Indian state, but even if it were to be adopted, it would involve mutating war, and make our region the most likely flashpoint for the next global conflagration.

The second option – winning over Kashmiri hearts – is not possible as long as curfews, etc. continue and leaders who can mediate



REUTERS

between Kashmiris and India are locked up. Initially, curfew and a media blackout might have saved a few lives by providing time for tempers to cool down. But the fact that they are still substantially in place is problematic, and leads to dangerous gossip-mongering. Similarly, kicking out the Kashmiri leadership with the claim that it is corrupt is not enough. More so, because if all these leaders had just exploited Kashmiris then there would have been no need to lock them up: Kashmiris would not have listened to them anyway. India desperately needs to find credible interlocutors in Kashmir. This is going to be more difficult than in the past.

Unsettled border

Also, the borders of Kashmir stay unresolved. My moderate Hindutva friends tell me that, having gained full control of our Kashmir, the BJP government will now let

the current borders become permanent. I find this a naive or dishonest supposition. I am very sure that, sooner or later, there will be internal pressure on the BJP to take PoK, not to mention external pressure by PoK-based militants. Hindutva supporters might overlook the parts occupied by China, but they won't give up on PoK. The matter remains as unsettled as before, and more volatile.

To change anything on the ground, without the option of demographic colonisation, we need to think of how to treat Kashmiris. Now that they are indubitably Indian citizens, we need to treat them like Indian citizens. This would include, among other things, not firing pellet guns at their demonstrations – just as pellet guns are not used on protests by Indian citizens. Is this possible?

One argument against the former status quo is that Kashmir was a State where only some politically empowered families benefited economically in the past. The dilution of Article 370 is supposed to change that. But this will only happen if economic development in Kashmir involves the Kashmiri people, and this is possible only if Kashmiris have the socio-political space potentially available to all Indian citizens. Otherwise, a super class of extra-state economic beneficiaries will replace the supposed current class of in-state beneficiaries.

We know from our past experience of colonisation in India that this leads to greater exploitation and alienation.

In terms of international relations, India's vast economic potential and Pakistan's post-1980s history of tinkering with Islamist militancy have combined to mute international criticism of what is happening in Kashmir. But this is unlikely to last if any major act of violence occurs in Kashmir, unfortunately a likelihood given internal Hindutva pressures for a 'masculine' resolution and the external shift of the centre of Islamic jihadism from the Afghanistan border to the Indian one. The latter is also a tragedy because, largely thanks to the work of Muslim moderates, the ideology of global jihadism had been waning among disillusioned youths over the past five to six years.

In short, the dilution of Article 370 was bold in the context of Kashmir but not really bold in the context of India, because most Indians wanted it. For the Kashmir problem to be resolved, the Indian government will now have to take steps that are bold in the context of India too – steps that will cost them some support in India. Does the government or the BJP have the vision and courage to take such steps?

Tabish Khair is an Indian novelist and academic who works in Denmark

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Letters emailed to letters@thehindu.co.in must carry the full postal address and the full name or the name with initials.

Language and unity

The theory of one nation, one language will not work in India as there are several 'mother tongues' to which their speakers attach greater importance. Language is not only a medium of communication, but it is the soul or spirit that the speakers express their feelings and emotions inherited over the millennia. In the United States and the United Kingdom, English is the prime language; is it the language alone that binds their nations? It is their culture and national outlook that unites them despite differences in race, religion and status. It is not want of a single language that stands in the

way of unity in India, but it is the diabolic caste system, deep-rooted prejudices, discrimination, untouchability, economic and social disparities and corruption that divide India even after 73 years of Independence. So we must first set our house in order, and not project a particular language predominantly just because it is spoken by many.

It is good for a citizen in India to know his 'mother tongue' or local language, English and Hindi. Language learning must come spontaneously and volitionally – not through compulsion, direct or indirect.

M. GOVINDASWAMY, Chennai

All is well?

The decision to detain former Union Minister and Jammu and Kashmir Chief Minister Farooq Abdullah, who also represents Srinagar in the Lok Sabha, under the stringent Public Safety Act has sent out a clear signal that the crackdown in Jammu and Kashmir is far removed from being eased; it is only showing signs of turning more severe (Page 1, "Farooq Abdullah detained under PSA, his house declared a jail", September 17). Are there signs that the move is intended to silence Dr. Abdullah who has been a vocal critic of the measures initiated in Jammu and Kashmir by the Central government?

Ironically, the Act in question was the brainchild of Dr. Abdullah's father, Sheikh Abdullah, and brought in for a different reason – to prevent timber smuggling and keep smugglers in prison.

C.V. ARAVIND, Bengaluru

Court and data

If the judiciary is to endorse the position of the Central government whose strategy is to establish superiority through an information blackout as far as Jammu and Kashmir is concerned, what happens to the credible vision of the institution? The facts on the ground do not tally with what is being presented as data. If everything is fine,

"where not a bullet has been fired after August 5", to cite the Solicitor General Tushar Mehta and which is also an attempt to show that there is impeccable behaviour, why are law makers under house arrest?

ILANKO XAVIER M., Pune

Bengal famine

The Bengal famine, that claimed millions of lives, was orchestrated by the colonial government's egregious acts of omission and commission (OpEd page, "The preventable Bengal famine", September 17). On a par with the Holocaust for its inhumanity, the Bengal famine, however, remains hidden in the obscure

corners of history books. Western historians wanted to hide the harsh fact that a liberal democracy that took pride in the enlightenment values such as rationality and humanitarianism perpetrated a hideous crime against humanity. Britain should demonstrate the humility to apologise. The disturbing fact that greedy Indian farmers and corrupt bureaucrats also were complicit in the famine could be the reason why Indian historians failed to effectively project the Bengal famine as a dark chapter in the colonial project.

V.N. MUKUNDARAJAN, Thiruvananthapuram

MORE LETTERS ONLINE: www.hindu.co.in/opinion/letters/

What Puranic historians won't accept

The oldest horse-drawn spoked-wheel war chariot in the world is younger than the Harappan civilisation



DEVDU TT PATTANA IK

A study has shown that there is no evidence of Steppe genes in Harappa according to analysis of DNA found in Rakhigarhi. This has led to the claim that Harappan civilisation was indigenous, 100% Indian, not shaped by any foreign influence whatsoever. Since many Puranic historians are convinced Rakhigarhi was Vedic, it could follow that the Vedas had no foreign influence either. Puranic historians have dated the Vedas, based on internal astronomical evidence, to 7,000 BCE (9,000 years ago), the events of the Ramayana to 5,000 BCE (7,000 years ago) and the Mahabharata war at Kurukshetra to 3,000 BCE (5,000 years ago). They are convinced the Vedas shaped the Sindhu-Saraswati civilisation which, according to archaeologists, waxed from 2,500 BCE (4,500 years ago) and waned by 1,900 BCE (3,900 years ago).

Horse, chariot and a civilisation But there is only one problem. According to archaeologists, the horse was only domesticated 5,000 years ago, in Eurasia. The spoked-wheel chariot was invented in the same region 4,000 years ago. It was used by Hyksos to conquer Egypt 3,600 years ago, long after the Harappan civilisation had waned. The earliest visual evidence of archers on chariots riding into battle involves the Hittites and the Egyptians who fought in Khadesh, in what is now Syria, about 3,300 years ago. In other words, the oldest horse-drawn spoked-wheel war chariot in the world is younger than the Harappan civilisation. How then can the Vedas, the Ramayana and the Mahabharata which, according to Puranic historians, pre-date the Harappan civilisation already have knowledge of horse-drawn spoked-wheel war chariots? The Vedas adore horses and speak of Indra riding spoked-wheel chariots. Rama rode one out of Ayodhya and Krishna served as charioteer in another. How is that possible? Is there a global conspiracy to deny that horses and



AP

spoked-wheel chariots were part of Indian civilisation over 9,000 years ago? Puranic historians insist Indians are victims of a complex Western 200-year-old conspiracy involving hundreds of scientists, historians, linguists and archaeologists. Anyone who argues otherwise becomes anti-national. Thus, a gag order is passed. As the Puranas inform us, there were several kings even before Rama. His ancestor, Ikshvaku, was the son of Manu, who established a civilisation after the Great Flood, probably referring to the Last Ice Age, which occurred 12,000 years ago. This aligns well with information found in the *Manusmriti* that the four ages of man lasted 4,800, 3,600, 2,400 and 1,200 years, making the total age 12,000 years, which is half the time taken by the sun to travel across the 12 houses of the zodiac (27 *nakshatras*), known as The Great Year. Of course, none of this has any archaeological evidence. But it is in the memory of a people, a popular truth, favoured by politicians who can destroy the careers of journalists, historians and scientists who argue otherwise. Agriculture in India is dated only to 7,000 BCE (the age of Rama, according to Puranic historians) and oldest pottery in the Gangetic plains is dated to 1,000 BCE. But Puranic historians are convinced that there is more evidence out there – the archaeologists have not yet found it, or maybe don't want to find it, or

worse, are hiding it. In America, there are 'White Hippie Brahmins' who have made a lucrative career of selling the idea to nostalgic Indians, who have given up Indian citizenship, that all of human civilisation has its roots in India. Cultural wisdom spread via the Vedas, from India, since the last Ice Age. **Puranic and Jain history** But while Puranic history may be true, it conflicts with Jain history. The Jains say that Nemi-natha was a contemporary of Krishna, but he lived 84,000 years ago at least. He was the 22nd Tirthankara, while Munisuvrat-natha (contemporary of Ram) was the 20th Tirthankara who probably lived in 1,184,980 BCE. The first Tirthankara was Rishabha-nath. He lived over 84,000,000 years ago, as per conservative estimates. Rishabha and Nemi names are found in the Yajur Veda, revealing that the Vedas have memory of these ancient sages. Rishabha's symbol, the bull, has been identified in Harappan seals (dated to 2,500 BCE by archaeologists). His son was Bharat, after whom India is called Bharat-varsha. His daughters introduced the Brahmi script (dated by historians to only 300 BCE) and decimal system (dated by historians to 200 CE). It is not clear if Manu came before Rishabha, or after. Neither Puranic nor Jain historians seem to agree. Some argue that Rishabha was Shiva, or that Shiva was Rishabha. But Hindu Puranas

speak of Shiva's marriage and entry into worldly life, while Jain Puranas speak of Rishabha's renunciation of marriage and worldly life. **Questions about the Vedas** That the Harappan civilisation was totally indigenous is indisputable according to current genetic studies. But the Vedas? Could they have been composed after arrival of Steppe Pastoralists around 1,500 BCE (3,500 years ago) which aligns with global historical timelines? Puranic historians dismiss the horse-drawn spoked-wheel chariot argument, the linguistic papers, the archaeological readings and genetic research by insisting that Western scholars are interpreting data to suit pre-existing hypothesis. After all, the Rig Veda does not have any memory of a homeland beyond the Himalayas. But the Vedas do not refer to any south Indian geography. Does that make the Vedas a pan-Indian scripture, or a north Indian scripture? Early Dharma-sutras refer only to the Gangetic plains as Arya-varta. Agastya, a Vedic rishi, migrated to the south as per Puranic as well as Tamil tales. Kaveri is called Dakshina Ganga, or Ganga of the south. Does that mean only north India, and not all of India, is the homeland of Vedas? Who decides? Historians or Puranic historians? Politicians or scientists? Devdutt Pattanaik writes and lectures on mythology in modern times

Pipe dreams, ground reality

Floodplains and forest aquifers can provide natural mineral water and unpolluted bulk water for our cities



VIKRAM SONI

Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman announced in July that the government will provide piped water to all rural households by 2024 under the Jal Jeevan Mission. This will be a costly and futile exercise since over 70% of India's surface water (rivers and lakes) and groundwater is polluted. The plan will require digging up the whole country and squandering lakhs of crores away for little gain. Since surface and groundwater is unfit for domestic use, Indians will soon need reverse osmosis (RO) for home, which will only burden the country's already expensive water programme. It is then of utmost importance that we protect the few unpolluted sources of water that remain. Otherwise India will be consigned as a nation to drink unhealthy and expensive RO water. The only unpolluted sources of water that remain are the waters underlying the floodplains of rivers (for bulk water) and the subterranean natural mineral water underlying forest tracts (for drinking). These must be protected and conserved. **A local and sustainable scheme** There are two non-invasive schemes which can perennially provide natural mineral water and unpolluted bulk water for our cities. These are strongly supported by Nobel Laureate A.J. Leggett and renowned scientist M.S. Swaminathan. We initiated the Yamuna Palla floodplain scheme for Delhi in 2009. It has been actively pursued by the Delhi Jal Board and provides quality water to more than a million people in Delhi. This local and sustainable river floodplain scheme can provide water supply for hundreds of river cities in India. It will be pathbreaking not only for India, but also the world. It will also yield great economic returns. Examples of self-sustaining floodplain water cities include Varanasi, Prayagraj, Agra, Mathura, most towns in Bihar and West Bengal, Cuttack, Bhubaneswar, Amravati, Vijayawada, Rajahmundry, and many cities in Tamil Nadu. In the fitness of things it would be wonderful if this scheme could be flagged off in the Prime Minister's constituency of Varanasi where the floodplain on the eastern flank of the river Ganga can locally and perennially provide the entire water needs of the city. Floodplains can be secured by planting organic food forests or fruit forests which

don't demand or consume much water. Carving out lakes, as has been lately suggested, would require digging out vast quantities of sand. This will affect the wetland ecology of the floodplains. It will also cause loss of water due to evaporation. **For unpolluted water** The other source of unpolluted water is natural mineral water that underlies forests. This water is of the highest international quality. Unpolluted rain falls on the forest, percolates through the humus or leaf cover on the forest floor while picking up nutrients, and then through the underlying rock while picking up minerals. It finally settles in underground aquifers. This is natural mineral water. Since this is high-quality natural mineral water purely for drinking, we need only 2-3 litres a day. Most of the country can still source this water. All our cities in the sweep of the Western and Eastern Ghats have such forest aquifers. The hills around Visakhapatnam can provide enough water for millions of people. Shimla has a forest mineral water sanctuary spread over nearby hill ranges. This was set up before Independence to provide the city with water. Bengaluru's Bannerghatta forest sanctuary and Mumbai's Sanjay Gandhi National Park have underground forest aquifers that can supply natural mineral water for the entire population of Bengaluru and Mumbai. So can the Delhi Ridge, for Delhi. Even the Aravalis can provide the best quality natural mineral water to all the cities in Rajasthan. However, taking more water than nature can recharge every year will be damaging. We need healthy and perennial 'conserve and use' solutions for the future. As of now Himalayan mineral water sells at ₹45 a litre. The forest aquifer scheme can provide mineral water countrywide for a billion people. It can be distributed at nominal charge, ₹2-3 a litre, through Mother Dairy kiosks and other outlets as its total cost would be economical compared to bottled RO water. Most importantly, the water levels of the floodplain aquifers need to be monitored scrupulously to be well above the river water level to avoid contamination by river water. We must maintain stable water levels for the subterranean forest aquifers to ensure sustainability. We need to declare the floodplains and forest aquifers as water sanctuaries similar to national parks and tiger reserves. If not, we will lose this amazing gift of natural infrastructure, as has already happened in some cases. Vikram Soni is Emeritus Professor of Physics and Ecological Wisdom, Jamia Millia and JNU

The future of food is animal-friendly

India's population can benefit from making available plant-based and clean meat

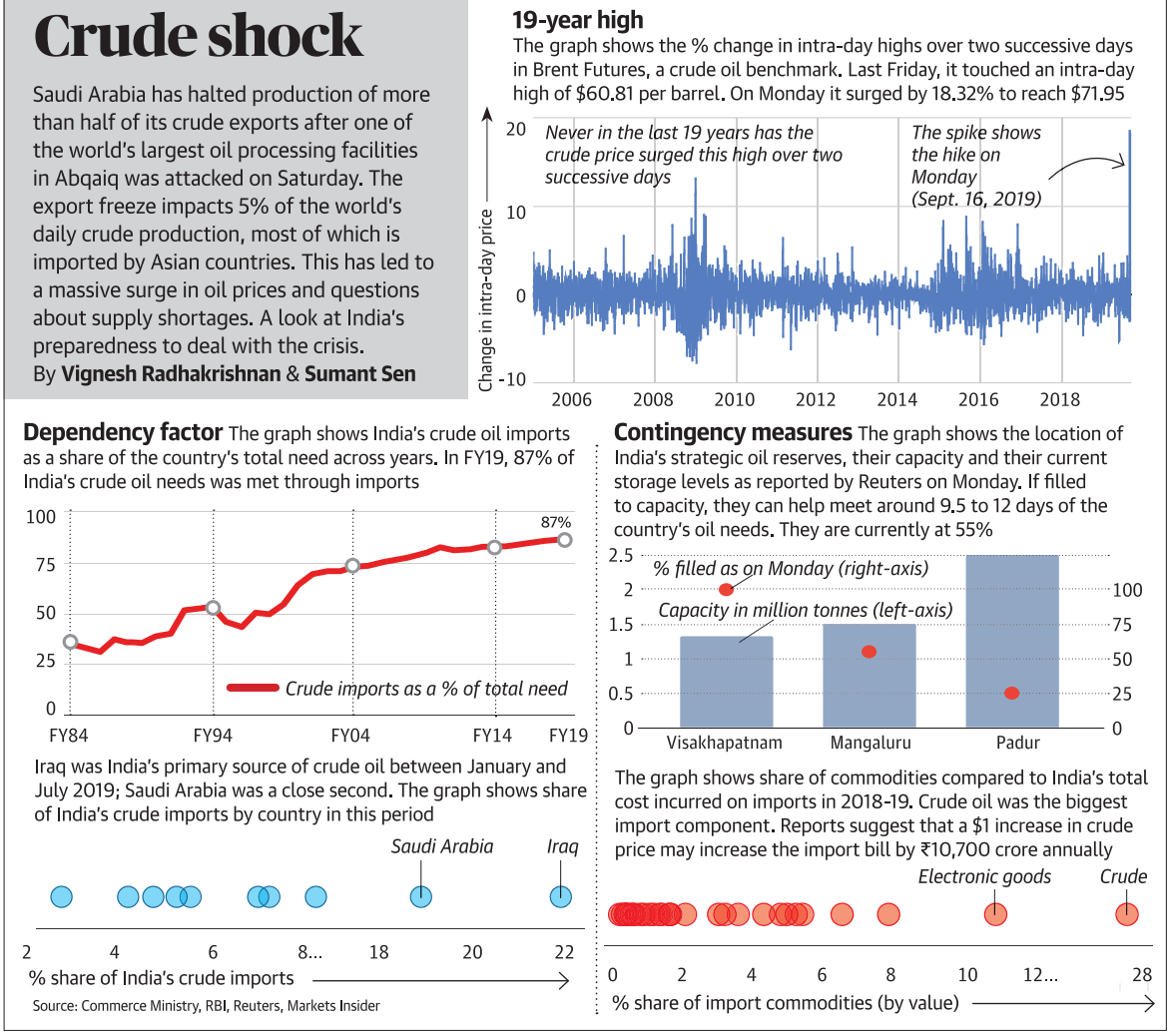
AMBIKA HIRANANDANI

Food occupies an important place in our lives. It nourishes us, gives us comfort, heals us, reminds us of home, invokes feelings of love, is an outlet for our creativity and brings us together. Unfortunately, our food system is facing monumental challenges. Feeding about 10 billion people by 2050 with our current agricultural practices is almost impossible. Our current food system puts undue pressure on our resources. This point hit home when we watched the Amazon rainforest burn mainly as a result of action by cattle ranchers and loggers. Ranchers set fire to the forests so that they can be used for cattle grazing. Cattle ranching is responsible for 80% of the destruction of the Amazon. In India too, our forests are being overgrazed by buffaloes and goats which are used for dairy or meat. Furthermore, greenhouse gas emissions from the meat industry are high. **Problems of the meat industry** Our food system is extremely inefficient as we feed grains to cows, goats and chickens and then eat the animals. So, in essence, for every 9 calories of food fed to a chicken we get 1 calorie back. Despite the efforts, 34.7% of Indian children suffer malnutrition. The inefficiency doesn't end there. The meat industry wastes a tremendous amount of water too – about one-third of the world's water consumption is for producing animal products. Niti Aayog has predicted that 21 major cities including Delhi, Bengaluru, Chennai and Hyderabad are going to hit zero groundwater levels by 2020. Antibiotics are used in livestock and poultry feed. The World Health Organization has said that antibiotic resistance is one of the biggest threats to global health, food security, and development today. Perhaps the greatest casualty of the meat industry are the animals which are crammed into farms, face extreme cruelty during their lives and are inhumanely slaughtered. As our incomes rise, meat consumption will increase and the pres-

sure on our resources will augment. Despite the increased meat production, we will continue to be a food-insecure nation. However, like with all quagmires, the human mind has found a solution, which is to increase the production of healthy and nutritious plant-based meat and innovate the technology to manufacture "cultivated meat", also called clean meat. Clean meat is grown in a lab from a small sample of cells taken from an animal. Both plant-based meat and clean meat are free of the negative externalities that animal meat production is responsible for, such as climate change. It is also healthier as it is free of antibiotics. Impossible Foods and Beyond Meat are the biggest companies in this sector. Beyond Meat makes burgers from pea protein and had an extremely successful IPO this year when it listed on the NASDAQ. The Indian company Good Dot has just opened six eateries in Mumbai and makes everything from a burger to plant-based kheema pav. The world's first cell-based meat company, Memphis Meats, has been co-founded by Uma Valeti, a Mayo Clinic-trained cardiologist from Vijayawada. Visionaries such as Bill Gates and Richard Branson have invested in Memphis Meats. Globally, the Netherlands, the U.S., Israel, Japan and Singapore are developing both plant-based and clean meat. India's population can benefit from making plant-based and clean meat available. India is uniquely poised to be a leader in this sector as crops such as millets, ragi, pulses and chickpeas which grow here are ideal raw ingredients for plant-based meats. Furthermore, it has envisioned the world's first centre of excellence for clean meat. This sector can alleviate the climate impact of the meat industry, augment farmers' incomes, combat malnutrition and spare the lives of billions of animals. It is time we as a people support it and encourage it to flourish. Ambika Hiranandani is a lawyer, environmentalist and animal rights activist who works with The Good Food Institute



DATA POINT



The **Hindu**.
FROM THE ARCHIVES
FIFTY YEARS AGO SEPTEMBER 18, 1969

Safety on roads
(From an Editorial)

Even though the number of vehicles plying in Madras is piffle compared to what obtains in other metropolises like New York, Tokyo, London, Paris and Rome the death rate on Madras roads is among the highest in the world. This is mainly because of lack of discipline on the part of all classes of road-users. Traffic regulations are more honoured in the breach than the observance. With bus operators, taxi-drivers, "private" motorists, cyclists and pedestrians all trying to monopolise the road as if it belonged to them alone, it is a wonder that the death rate is not higher than the 0.4 or so for 100 vehicles that it now is. Every year, the Madras Police Department organises a Road Safety Week to arouse the traffic conscience of the citizenry but that does not seem to be making any tangible impact, judging by the steadily increasing toll of the roads. Traffic accidents have doubled in the last decade and road deaths trebled. There are twice the number of vehicles on the roads to day compared to ten years ago but road discipline has not kept pace with the increase in traffic. It is to bringing about this discipline to which the Police authorities should address themselves on a priority basis.

A HUNDRED YEARS AGO SEPT. 18, 1919.
Adolescent Criminals.
(From an Editorial)

The career of a criminal, whether he is a hardened offender or whether he is a first offender, after his release from prison, is of more importance to himself and society at large, than any number of police to watch his movement. But even more important than the corrective are the preventive methods of dealing with persons hesitating on the border line between becoming offenders, or continuing as adherents to the law. The loss of temper, a sudden and uncontrollable impulse, a latent hereditary instinct, a pang of hunger, a gust of passion are trifling things, and yet account annually for the first steps into breaking the law. This tendency to impulsive and thoughtless action is particularly characteristic of youth. But even the man whose character is formed and who is considered unlikely to commit himself is often guilty of grave crime; "For none can tell, to what red bell, His soul may one day stray." The local Government are right, therefore, in concerning themselves about adolescent convicts, their past, their present and their future.

FROM PAGE ONE

MGNREGA wages to be pegged to inflation

“They have now agreed to update the indices annually. MGNREGA wages will be linked to whichever index is higher in a particular State,” said the official, estimating that the increased wages based on updated inflation indices may result in 10% higher government expenditure on the scheme.

Wage rate revisions are usually notified at the beginning of a financial year, but the Ministry is trying implement the hike during the current year itself, as part of a stimulus package to counter the ongoing slowdown.

“If transferring expenditure [via MGNREGA] is done, rural wages could increase and that could percolate down into more purchasing power in the hands of the consumer,” said Soumya Kanti Ghosh, chief economic advisor for the State Bank of India.

However, some economists questioned whether the move is sufficient to revive demand.

“Of course, any increase in wages is welcome. But the

base rate itself is so low for MGNREGA, so it may not be enough to link it to inflation now,” said Dipa Sinha, an economist teaching at Ambedkar University.

Wide gap

According to the latest Periodic Labour Force Survey, market wages for men were higher than MGNREGA wages by 74% in 2017-18, while for women, it was a 21% gap. “They must first increase the wages and subsequently ensure better inflation indexation. Otherwise, the impact will be minimal,” said Dr. Sinha.

Even with existing wages, the scheme is running out of funds due to increased demand for work. MGNREGA received a budgetary allocation of ₹60,000 crore, of which more than 75% has already been released by the Centre even before the half-year point of the year. Last week, the RD Ministry asked the Finance Ministry for an additional supplementary grant of ₹15,000-₹20,000 crore.

Stocks slide on oil; Sensex declines 1.7%

Incidentally, the India VIX index, which reflects expectations of near-term market volatility, surged almost 7% to 16.

“The selling pressure aggravated for Indian markets as depreciating rupee and geopolitical tensions spooked investor sentiments,” said Ajit Mishra, Vice President - Research, Religare Broking.

“The sharp rise in crude oil prices has impacted domestic sentiments due to India’s high dependence on imports. Going forward, market participants would keep a close watch on geopolitical developments as any further escalation would have an adverse impact on markets and economy,” he added.

The weak investor sentiment was further corroborated by the extremely negative market breadth as

losers outnumbered gainers in the ratio of 2:1.

On the BSE, almost 1,700 stocks lost ground, as against 829 gainers. All the sectoral indices also ended in the red.

Among the other major Asian markets, Hong Kong’s Hang Seng Index lost more than 1%, while the benchmarks of China, Taiwan, Philippines and Singapore also ended in the red as crude hovered around \$69 before easing to about \$65 in late morning U.S. trade.

On the Sensex, sector heavyweights like Maruti Suzuki India, Axis Bank, Tata Steel, Bajaj Auto, State Bank of India (SBI) and HDFC were among the big losers.

Foreign portfolio investors, meanwhile, continued their selling activity with net sales in the current month pegged at ₹3,220 crore.

U.S., India keen to wrap up trade deal

While the Ministry of Commerce has officially been non-committal, officials in the know have said that there is a high likelihood of the two leaders announcing a major trade deal during the event.

“The U.S. ambassador was there during Mr. Goyal’s meeting with the foreign pharma companies, and in fact he asked the Indian players to leave the room as he was not comfortable having the Indian representatives there,” a representative of the Indian medical device manufacturers told *The Hindu*. “We had to wait for 2.5 hours for the meeting to get over, and insist that the Minister meet us too.

Our meeting was much shorter, about half an hour.”

Commerce Ministry officials, however, justified Mr. Juster’s presence in an internal meeting of the Indian government.

“It is not unusual for the Ambassador to be involved in the discussions, especially in the run-up to the meeting between Mr. Modi and Mr. Trump,” an official said. “To have another government sit in on your discussions on a national policy is extremely outrageous,” Malini Aisola, Co-convenor of the All India Drug Action Network (AIDAN), said.

“It is unbelievable the kind of open pressure the U.S. government is putting.”

Anticipatory bail plea of IPS officer rejected

Therefore it could not pass orders on either of the petitions.

Counsel for Mr. Kumar argued that the petitioner’s name does not feature in any previous charge sheet filed by the agency. He argued that the officer, “who was a witness” in the Saradha case till September 13, was declared an accused on Tuesday and the CBI is pushing for his arrest. The CBI lawyer argued that custody would be necessary because he had “suppressed” evidence.

Meanwhile, there was hectic activity at the CBI office in Kolkata, with senior

officials holding a series of meetings. CBI Joint Director Pankaj Srivastava told journalists, “so far he [Mr. Kumar] is not cooperating.”

Senior CBI officers said that several teams have been set up to locate Mr. Kumar. The government has said that Mr. Kumar is on leave from September 9 to 25 and remains incommunicable. A CBI official in New Delhi said Mr. Kumar failed to appear before it on Tuesday in connection with the Saradha case. The CBI has approached a Delhi court seeking a non-bailable warrant against Mr. Kumar, sources said.

Modi has ended policy paralysis: Shah

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA
NEW DELHI

Union Home Minister Amit Shah on Tuesday attacked the Congress for its “culture of policy paralysis”, alleged corruption and unguarded borders prior to 2014, saying people then wondered whether India’s multi-party democratic system had failed.

“After nearly 70 years of Independence, there was a question in the minds of the people whether the vision of the founding fathers had really been realised. Whether the multi-party democratic system had failed to fulfil the aspirations of the citizens of the country,” he said at an event of the All India Management Association.

In this scenario, the nation in 2014 gave a resounding majority to the Narendra Modi-led government, an absolute majority government for the first time in 30 years, Mr. Shah said. He said previous governments could take only five decisions in the past 30 years, whereas, the Modi government took over 50 decisions in the past five years.

Congress reacts

The Congress said Mr. Shah’s statement was “belittling India’s multi-party democracy and shocking”.

Senior Congress leader Anand Sharma said, “Given India’s rich diversity, only a multi-party system can be inclusive and representative of the Union of India. The NDA itself is a multi-party alliance and its member parties have formed governments in States. I hope that Nitish Kumar, Parkash Singh Badal, Uddhav Thackeray and others are listening.”

All 4 accused in Bettiah gang-rape case held

Police deny that victim was recently released from the Muzaffarpur shelter home

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA
PATNA/BETTIAH

All four persons named as accused in the Bettiah gang-rape case have been arrested and the complainant, who claimed she was 18 years old, turned out to be a minor, a police officer said on Tuesday.

‘Confessed involvement’

Additional Director General of Police (Headquarters) Jitendra Kumar said that the four accused, including two brothers, have confessed to their involvement with the girl last week.

Bettiah SP Jayantkant said all four accused named in the FIR – Akash Kumar, Sajjan Kumar, Kundan Kumar and Anshu Kumar – have been arrested.

“All of them, including si-



Silver cascade: People watching the release of water from the Sardar Sarovar Dam on the Narmada at Kevadiya on Tuesday. For the first time since the height of the dam was raised in 2017, the water level reached its peak of 138.68 m. ■VIJAY SONEJI

J&K move inspired by Patel: PM

Modi recalls former Home Minister’s vision at a rally near Sardar Sarovar dam

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
AHMEDABAD

Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel’s vision inspired the Union government’s recent move on Jammu and Kashmir, Prime Minister Narendra Modi said on Tuesday. Praising the former Home Minister for his role in unifying the country, Mr. Modi said the government’s move was aimed at resolving the decades-old issue with implications on national security.

“The people of Jammu and Kashmir and Ladakh region had to face discrimination for 70 years due to which India had to face consequences in the form of separatism, violence, etc. Taking inspiration from Sardar Patel, the country has now decided to tread on a new path to resolve the decades-old problems,” he said.

Blaming violence and separatism for lack of development in the insurgency-hit State, he said, “We will make



Meal with mother: Prime Minister Narendra Modi with his mother Hiraben on the occasion of his 69th birthday. ■PTI

the stream of development flow through Jammu and Kashmir and Ladakh and Kargil regions by winning the faith of the local people.”

Celebration at home

Mr. Modi, who turned 69 on Tuesday and celebrated his birthday in Gujarat, his home State, made the remarks at a rally near the Sardar Sarovar Dam, where he offered prayers. The dam achieved the full reservoir

level for the first time, prompting State-wide celebrations.

Lauding Sardar Patel for his role in the annexation of Hyderabad princely State with the Indian Union in 1948, the Prime Minister said September 17 was celebrated as the Hyderabad Liberation Day because of the vision of the late leader.

“Just imagine that had the foresight of Sardar Patel not been there and he would not

Exhibition marks PM’s birthday

SPECIAL
CORRESPONDENT
NEW DELHI

On Tuesday, as Prime Minister Narendra Modi marked his 69th birthday on a visit to Gujarat, his Cabinet colleagues shared their birthday greetings for him at events held by their Ministries on various issues.

Culture Minister Prahlaad Singh Patel inaugurated an exhibition of photos of monuments and archaeological sites in Kashmir, mostly in Pakistan-occupied Kashmir, a first according to the Ministry, at the National Monuments Authority’s headquarters here.

Union Minister of State for the Prime Minister’s Office Jitendra Singh was also a part of the inauguration ceremony.

Amid the photos of monuments in PoK, including the Shiva temple in Mirpur and Red Fort or Muzaffarabad Fort, were two exhibits on Mr. Modi.

In one of them, a photo of the Kirti Toran in Vadnagar in Gujarat was displayed with the inscription: “The village where our Prime Minister was born – The boy who sold tea near Kirti Toran became the greatest icon of India’s Kirti – Glory world over (sic).”

Photos of Mr. Modi – one from his childhood and one current – were on display.

Another exhibit wishing the Prime Minister on his birthday was placed next to the Kirti Toran photo.

Assam police take action in stripping case

Two police personnel suspended

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
GUWAHATI

The Assam Police on Tuesday suspended the officer-in-charge (OC) and a female constable of a police station in Darrang district for allegedly stripping and torturing three women – one of them in an early stage of pregnancy – during interrogation in an abduction case.

This followed a complaint lodged against Mahendra Sarma, the OC of Burha police station, by the Assam State Commission for Women.

The police from Darrang had on September 9 come to Guwahati in search of one Rafiqul Islam accused of abducting a girl in the district’s Burha police station. In-

stead, they picked up three of his female relatives.

Aided by the female constable, Mr. Sarma allegedly stripped and thrashed the trio throughout the night besides threatening to shoot them if they complained against him.

The victims lodged a complaint with the district’s Superintendent of Police Amrit Bhuyan on September 10 but investigation into the case was allegedly delayed.

“We have placed the OC and the female constable under suspension. Deputy Inspector General Brajenjit Sinha has been asked to investigate,” Assam’s Director-General of Police Kuladhar Saikia told *The Hindu*.

India-U.S. bilateral planned in New York

SRIRAM LAKSHMAN
WASHINGTON DC

Apart from U.S. President Donald Trump’s participation in Sunday’s ‘Howdy, Modi!’ diaspora event in Houston, it is understood that there will be an India-U.S. bilateral when both leaders are in New York City, on the sidelines of the United Nations General Assembly’s 74th session.

Mr. Trump is due to address the General Assembly

on September 24, and Prime Minister Narendra Modi on September 27.

Mr. Trump also hinted at this when he said, “We’ll be meeting with India and Pakistan,” in response to a question on Monday about the Houston event. “So, I’ll see Prime Minister Modi and I will – we’ll be meeting with India and Pakistan. And I think a lot of progress has been made there. A lot of progress,” he said.



APPEAL

Name of Patient: **Debmalaya Sardar**, 8 months. Hospital Name: Columbia Asia Hospital. Diagnosis: suffering from Cyanotic Congenital Heart Disease - Moderate Perimembranous VSD-L-R Shunt, RVOT Muscular Bundle with severe RVOTO. He requires to undergo ICR (Open Heart Surgery) at the earliest. The estimated cost of the surgery is Rs. 3,50,000/-

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SAVE POOR LIVES

Let us first discuss terror: Jaishankar

Minister says the root cause of the state of ties with Pakistan is not Article 370, but its terrorism

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
NEW DELHI

Cross-border terrorism emanating from Pakistan should be the first topic to be taken up for any India-Pakistan talks, External Affairs Minister S. Jaishankar said here on Tuesday.

At a press conference to mark the completion of the first 100 days of the new Modi government, he said the world understood why India had undertaken recent steps in Kashmir, and ending the special status of Jammu and Kashmir was an internal matter.

“What should come on the table first of all is the terrorism issue,” he said. “Because that is the root cause of the state of the relationship [with Pakistan]. The issue is not Article 370. The issue is Pakistan’s terrorism. There has to be a recognition of that.”

He said Pakistan openly



Setting the agenda: S. Jaishankar and Foreign Secretary Vijay Gokhale at a press meet in New Delhi. • SHIV KUMAR PUSHPAKAR

used cross-border terrorism as a tool to advance its foreign policy goals.

UN agenda
The Minister’s comment sets the Indian agenda for the upcoming UN General Assembly, where the country’s diplomatic team is expected to defend Indian actions in Kashmir.

Mr. Jaishankar is expected to participate in the Foreign

Ministers’ meeting of the South Asian Association for Regional Cooperation on September 26 where Shah Mahmood Qureshi of Pakistan is scheduled to be present.

Not ruling out any meeting with his Pakistani counterpart, Mr. Jaishankar said, “We will see when that happens.”

The Minister said the world understood New Del-

hi’s case on Jammu and Kashmir.

“Article 370 was a temporary provision and it had become dysfunctional. It was being arbitrated by a narrow set of people for their gains, and by doing that, they were impeding development and that lack of development was feeding a sense of separatism and that separatism actually has been utilised by Pakistan to carry out cross-border terrorism,” Mr. Jaishankar said.

Two options

He said the Centre had two options regarding the situation in Kashmir. One policy had failed in the past three decades; the second option was to do things differently. The first option, he said, had had “costs and casualties”.

The Minister indirectly addressed the growing criticism coming from some members of the U.S. Congress regarding the continu-

ing lockdown of Kashmir since August 5, and said they were known to opine on issues without a proper understanding.

“[Members of] U.S. Congress say a lot of things. What they say is not necessarily a function of the knowledge on that particular subject. Sometimes they could have a view, and mostly the views could be transposed from their own experience,” said Mr. Jaishankar announcing that he expected to visit the U.S. capital soon.

He struck a combative note, and cited examples from American history to argue in favour of the communications lockdown and prolonged curfew in Kashmir.

“If I were to meet a member of the U.S. Congress, I would ask them, look you have confronted terrorism, what was your response; you have confronted separatism, what was your response?”

Charges against Farooq include support to rebellion

Materials include 3 FIRs and statements made since 2016

VIJAJITA SINGH
SRINAGAR

The government has listed 27 charges against former J&K Chief Minister Farooq Abdullah to detain him under the stringent Public Safety Act, show details accessed by The Hindu.

Included as supporting documents are three first information reports and 16 diary entries made in various police stations in the Kashmir Valley. While two FIRs were registered in Srinagar, one was in Delhi. The charges date back to 2016.

One of the charges said Mr. Abdullah, Srinagar MP, had violated the “freedom of speech” by inciting violence. “He misused his political position” for asking the new generation of Kashmir to pick up arms and “propagat-



A jawan outside Farooq Abdullah's home. • AP

ed secessionist ideology”.

The complaint also said he had made 13 statements around Article 370 and 35A “for the purpose of rebellion against India”.

The chargesheet said Mr. Abdullah had warned people that the Centre’s move to revoke the special status of Jammu and Kashmir was being done to change the demography of the Muslim-

majority State. On two instances in July and December 2018, he gave statements against the sovereignty of India by “saying Pakistan-occupied Kashmir was an integral part of Pakistan”.

The chargesheet alleged that at a public meeting in Hazratbal last December, Mr. Abdullah offered support to the separatists, saying “We stand by you and will not let your efforts go waste.”

The chargesheet said the MP had remarked that the February 14 Pulwama terror attack was not done by militants but “the Indian Government did it.” In a rally during the Lok Sabha election, he asked people to be ready for a “mass struggle” for freedom from India.

‘Govt. using Kashmir to divide India’

Jailing leaders like Farooq Abdullah will make room for terrorists: Rahul Gandhi

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
NEW DELHI

Congress leaders on Tuesday condemned the detention of former Jammu and Kashmir Chief Minister Farooq Abdullah under the Public Safety Act.

Former party chief Rahul Gandhi accused the Union government of “using Kashmir as a political instrument to polarise the rest of India”, and said that jailing of mainstream political leaders like Mr. Abdullah would create space for terrorists.

“It’s obvious that the government is trying to remove nationalist leaders like Farooq Abdullahji to create a



Rahul Gandhi

political vacuum in Jammu & Kashmir that will be filled by terrorists. Kashmir can then permanently be used as a political instrument to polarise the rest of India,” Mr. Gandhi tweeted.

Mr. Gandhi urged the

Centre to release all the jailed political prisoners immediately. “The government should stop creating space for terrorists in Jammu & Kashmir and release all nationalist leaders ASAP [as soon as possible],” he said.

Former Union Finance Minister P. Chidambaram, who is lodged in the Tihar jail in an alleged corruption case, condemned the arrest of Mr. Abdullah.

“I have asked my family to tweet on my behalf the following: I condemn the detention of Shri Farooq Abdullah under PSA. There is no one in Kashmir more devoted to the idea of a united

India of which J&K is an integral part than Shri Farooq Abdullah,” Mr. Chidambaram’s official handle said.

“Now PSA (43 days later). Earlier BJP said 92% of people in J&K welcome dilution of Article 370; that normalcy prevails. Then Amit Shah in Parliament: Farooq Abdullah neither detained nor arrested. If no danger to public safety then, why now? Because Vaiko filed petition?” asked the former Law Minister Kapil Sibal.

Former Union Minister Ashwani Kumar said the arrest of Farooq Abdullah would delay the return of normalcy.

We’re dying a slow death: Tarigami

Kashmir leader says, ‘We just ask for a chance to march with you, take us along’

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
NEW DELHI

Mohammad Yousuf Tarigami, CPI(M) leader from Kashmir and former legislator, on Tuesday hit out at the the Union government’s “not a bullet fired” narrative since August 5 when Article 370 was diluted and Jammu and Kashmir bifurcated as Union Territories. The people of Kashmir were “dying a slow death” due to the ongoing clampdown, he said.

Mr. Tarigami is the first of the detained Kashmiri politician who could reach Delhi. He met presspersons at the party headquarters.

He said the truth was “We



CPI(M) general secretary Sitaram Yechury and party leader from Kashmir Mohammed Tarigami. • SANDEEP SAXENA

are dying slowly. We are being suffocated there.” In an emotional appeal to the rest of the country, he said: “We also want to live, a Kashmiri, a Hindustani is saying this. I appeal, we too should get a chance to live.”

“An average Kashmiri

doesn’t ask for heavens, we just ask for a chance to march with you, take us along,” he said.

Mr. Tarigami said he had seen worst times in Kashmir but never felt as disturbed as he felt today. “Why don’t they try doing this in Delhi

Only permanent residents to be recruited for police posts in J&K

PEERZADA ASHIQ
SRINAGAR

The J&K police, in a fresh notification issued on Monday, has decided to recruit only “permanent residents” to 1,350 posts of women constables, despite the State Subject law, Article 35-A, ceasing to be in vogue after the August 5 presidential order diluting it.

A police spokesman said the recruitment for two women battalions, one each from Jammu and Kashmir regions, will entertain only “permanent residents” and “any candidate furnishing wrong information



shall attract legal action”.

On the directions of Director-General of Police Dilbagh Singh, the dates for submitting the forms have been extended to October 23, in the wake of non-availability of the Internet. The police spokesman said

forms for the posts would be made available at the district level from September 23 and the candidates can now file forms physically at the police’s district headquarters. Earlier, the forms were only online.

The vacancies were announced by the Home Ministry in March. It will see 60% of the recruitments from the border districts of Baramulla, Kupwara, Bandipora, Jammu, Samba, Kathua, Rajouri and Poonch and 40% from other districts.

This comes at a time when the fate of the Permanent Resident Certificate is not clear.

Major defence contracts for local industry

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
NEW DELHI

The Defence Ministry has signed a ₹5,500-crore contract for additional indigenous Akash surface-to-air missile (SAM) systems and in the next one year, contracts worth ₹70,000-80,000 crore are expected to be signed with Indian industry.

“Akash SAM contract was signed two days back worth ₹5,500 crore. Though Bharat Electronics Limited (BEL) and Bharat Dynamics Limited (BDL) are the main vendors, there are almost 150 private vendors involved,” Apurva Chandra, Director-General, Acquisition, in the Defence Ministry, said at a session on Make in India organised by the Society of Indian Defence Manufacturers. The deal is for seven additional Akash units for the Indian Air Force.

The government aims to build a \$10 trillion economy by 2032 and defence has been identified as one of the most prominent sectors to contribute to this growth, said Defence Minister Rajnath Singh.

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e-Tender Notice
Tender No : 01/2019-20/KWA/PHC/D4/TVM(RTI) Plan 30-TSS-Procurement of sewer cleaning machine and safety equipment for sewer maintenance.
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Website : www.kwa.kerala.gov.in www.etenders.kerala.gov.in

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NOTICE INVITING TENDER FOR SALE OF HARIDA (SEEDED) & SEEDED TAMARIND - 2019 CROP PROCURED UNDER MINIMUM SUPPORT PRICE SCHEME
The Managing Director, Tribal Development Cooperative Corporation of Odisha Limited, Bhubaneswar invites Tenders in prescribed form to be received up to 12.00 P.M. on 17.10.2019 from the reputed firms / companies / bidders of State of Odisha and outside for disposal of approximately 78.00 of Harida Seeded & 1112.28 qtl of Seeded Tamarind 2019 crop procured under Minimum Support Price Scheme.
The Tender Form and detail terms and conditions of the tender may be downloaded from official website of TDCCOL i.e. www.tdcccodisha.org . The acceptance of tender shall be subject to final decision of Managing Director, TDCCOL.

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Rajajinagar 1st Block, Bengaluru-560 010. Telefax : 080-22024000
email : cekrdcl@gmail.com Website: http://www.krdcl.in
No. KRDC/IFB/2019-20/ 09 Dated : 17.09.2019

Table with 4 columns: Name of the stretch, Estimated Annual Remittance (Rs. in lakh), Period of Collection, EMD (Rs. in lakh). Includes Collection of Road User Fee on Sandur - Hospet Road (SH-49) from Toll Plazas at Km. 5.70 near Susheelnagar and at Km. 25.00 near Rajapur Village.

- a) Interested applicants may access for RFP documents from e-Procurement portal https://eproc.karnataka.gov.in from 18.09.2019 onwards.
- b) The Technical bids along with EMD and Financial bids are to be submitted in the e-format as per the instructions in the bidding documents.
- c) The Schedule of dates for various activities is as follows:
(i) Pre-bid meeting will be held on 01.10.2019, 15.00 hours at KRDC/ Head office, Bengaluru and pre-bid queries has to be submitted within this time.
(ii) Last date for submission of Technical and Financial bids is on 19.10.2019 upto 17.30 hours.
(iii) Date and time for opening of Technical bids is on 21.10.2019 at 11.30 hours.
(iv) Any changes will be uploaded on e-portal & KRDC/ website only and will not be published in news papers.

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Visit www.malabarlements.co.in for submission of tenders for regular Engineering items & Services.
Sd/- MANAGING DIRECTOR

U.S. intel says Saudi attacks were staged from Iran

Tehran launched 20 drones and at least a dozen missiles, says report; Riyadh claims Iranian weapons were used in attack

AGENCE FRANCE-PRESSE
REUTERS
WASHINGTON/ JEDDAH

American officials have shared intelligence with Riyadh indicating that Iran was the staging ground for the devastating drone attacks on Saudi Arabia's oil installations, the *Wall Street Journal* reported on Monday.

The weekend strikes on Abqaiq – the world's largest processing plant – and the Khurais oilfield knocked out 5.7 million barrels per day (bpd), or 6% of global production, sending prices soaring.

While Washington has blamed Tehran, the Monday assessment on the origin of the attacks has not been shared publicly, the *Journal* said.

‘Not definitive’

The U.S. assessment determined that “Iran launched more than 20 drones and at



Tough stance: Iran leader Ayatollah Ali Khamenei during a meeting in Tehran on Tuesday. ■ AFP

least a dozen missiles,” according to unnamed sources. “But Saudi officials said the U.S. didn’t provide enough to conclude that the attack was launched from Iran, indicating the U.S. information wasn’t definitive,” the WSJ added.

“U.S. officials said they

planned to share more information with the Saudis in the coming days.”

President Donald Trump has said that the United States is ready to help Saudi Arabia, but will wait for a “definitive” determination on who was responsible. “I’m not looking to get in-

to new conflict, but sometimes you have to,” he said. “That was a very large attack, and it could be met by an attack many, many times larger.”

“Certainly, it would look to most like it was Iran.” Iran-supported Houthi rebels – who are fighting a Sau-

di-led coalition in Yemen – claimed the strikes. Riyadh has said Iranian weapons were used, but stopped short of blaming Tehran directly.

Oil supply restored

Saudi Arabia Energy Minister said on Tuesday that oil supply is fully back online and the kingdom will achieve 11 million bpd capacity by the end of September and 12 million bpd by the end of November.

Minister Prince Abdulaziz bin Salman also told a press conference that oil production in October would be 9.89 million bpd and that the world’s top oil supplier to customers this month.

He said Saudi Arabia would keep its role as the secure supplier of global oil markets, adding that the kingdom needed to take strict measures to prevent further attacks.

No talks with U.S.: Khamenei

AGENCE FRANCE-PRESSE
TEHRAN

Iran’s supreme leader on Tuesday ruled out negotiations with the U.S. “at any level”, after Washington blamed Tehran for attacks on Saudi oil installations.

Ayatollah Ali Khamenei said the U.S. adopted a policy of “maximum pressure” on Iran because it believes it cannot bring the Islamic republic to its knees through other means.

“The policy of ‘maximum pressure’ against the Iranian nation is worthless and all Islamic Republic of Iran officials unanimously believe there will be no negotiations with the U.S. at any level,” he said in a televised address.

Corruption shadow over Sri Lanka’s tallest tower

President alleges fund misappropriation

REUTERS
COLOMBO

The grand opening of Sri Lanka’s tallest tower was mired in controversy on Monday when President Maithripala Sirisena said one of the Chinese firms contracted to work on the project had disappeared with \$11 million of state funds.

Mr. Sirisena made the allegation at the launch ceremony of the China-financed Lotus Tower, a 356.3 metre construction in the shape of a lotus bud featuring a revolving restaurant, conference hall and observation area.

The tower overlooks Beira Lake in central Colombo.

Mr. Sirisena said that in 2012, under his predecessor former President Mahinda Rajapaksa, the state-run Telecommunication Regulatory Commission (TRC) had deposited 2 billion rupees (\$11.09 million) with Aerospace Long-March International Trade Co. Ltd (ALIT), a Chinese firm chosen as one of the main contractors.

“In 2016, we found ALIT had disappeared. We investigated into this and the Sri Lankan Ambassador in Beijing went to the address of ALIT personally on my instruction to find there was no such company,” Mr. Sirisena said in a speech.

“This is the money we could have spent for development of this country, for education, and medicines of patients.”

Mr. Sirisena’s audience at the opening ceremony included Chinese envoy to Colombo Cheng Xueyuan. It was not possible to approach Mr. Cheng at the ceremony for comment and officials at China’s Embassy in the Sri Lankan capital did



The Lotus Tower overlooking Beira Lake in Colombo. ■ AFP

not respond to text and WhatsApp messages. It was not immediately possible to contact ALIT via phone or email.

Mr. Sirisena had suspended most of the Chinese-backed infrastructure projects started under Mr. Rajapaksa when he came to power in 2015 over allegations of corruption, overpricing and flouting government procedures. But more than a year later, the Sirisena government allowed Chinese projects to resume after a few changes in some of them.

China’s Exim Bank in 2012 agreed to lend 80% of the total investment of \$104.3 million in the Lotus Tower, with the rest to be met by TRC.

Mr. Sirisena said the government had started repayment of the loans made, but more funds were needed to complete the project.

ELSEWHERE



20 dead as truck falls off cliff in Philippines

MANILA

Twenty villagers were killed and 14 others were injured when the truck they were riding in lost control and fell off a cliff on Tuesday in a remote mountain village in the southern Philippines, the police and the Red Cross said. The truck was negotiating a downhill road in Tboli when its brakes apparently failed and it plummeted down a ravine, pinning 15 people to death. Five other victims later died in hospitals. ■ AP

AGENCE FRANCE-PRESSE
KABUL

The Taliban, which killed at least 48 people and wounded dozens more in two blasts on Tuesday, has warned of more violence ahead of the September 28 election.

The first attack saw a motorcyclist detonate a suicide bomb at a checkpoint leading to a rally where President Ashraf Ghani was addressing supporters in central Parwan province, just north of the capital, killing 26 and wounding 42.

Just over an hour later another blast also claimed by the Taliban rocked central Kabul near the U.S. Embassy. Authorities initially did not give casualty figures, but la-



In position: Afghan security forces at the site of a suicide attack near the U.S. Embassy in Kabul on Tuesday. ■ AP

ter said 22 people had been killed and a further 38 wounded.

The explosions came after U.S. President Donald Trump abruptly ended talks with the Taliban earlier this month over a deal that would have allowed the U.S.

to begin withdrawing troops from its longest war.

In a statement sent to media claiming responsibility for both blasts, Taliban spokesman Zabihullah Mujahid said the attack near Mr. Ghani’s rally was deliberately aimed at disrupting the elec-

tion. “We already warned people not to attend election rallies, if they suffer any losses that is their own responsibility,” the statement said.

Women, children killed

Women and children were among the casualties, Parwan hospital director Abdul Qasim Sangin said.

The President, who was speaking to his supporters at the time of the blast, was unhurt but later condemned the attack, saying the incident proved the Taliban had no real interest in reconciliation.

“As the Taliban continue their crimes, they once again prove that they are not interested in peace and stability

in Afghanistan,” said Mr. Ghani in a statement.

The UN’s mission in Afghanistan also slammed the Taliban, accusing them of showing “despicable disregard for civilian life & fundamental human right to participate in democratic process”.

The election will see Mr. Ghani face off against his own Chief Executive, Abdullah Abdullah, and more than a dozen other candidates, including former warlords, ex-spies, and one-time members of the country’s former communist regime. Mr. Ghani is seeking a clear mandate they can use to negotiate with the insurgents on a lasting peace in Afghanistan.

Israel votes on Prime Minister Netanyahu’s political survival

Second election in five months is expected to be ‘very tight’

AGENCE FRANCE-PRESSE
JERUSALEM

Israelis voted on Tuesday in their second election in five months that will decide whether to keep Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu, the country’s longest-serving Prime Minister, in office despite corruption allegations against him.

The stakes could not be much higher for the 69-year-old right-wing leader who, as in the April polls, faces a strong challenge from ex-military chief Benny Gantz and his centrist Blue and White alliance.

Mr. Netanyahu voted in Jerusalem and said he expected a close election, urging Is-



Benjamin Netanyahu

raelis to turn out in large numbers.

U.S. “President (Donald) Trump said yesterday that the elections will be tight,” Mr. Netanyahu said, referring to comments by his staunch ally who called the polls “50/50”. “I can guarantee you this morning that they are very tight.”

He spent the day warning he was on the verge of losing if his supporters did not turn out to vote, including in appearances at Jerusalem’s main market and its central bus station, where he wielded a megaphone to exhort the crowds. He repeatedly warned, as he has in previous elections, that left-wing and Arab voters were showing up in large numbers to vote him out.

Mr. Gantz voted in his hometown of Rosh Haayin and called on the country to reject corruption and “extremism”. “We want new hope. We are voting today for change,” Mr. Gantz said after voting with wife Revital.

Race heats up within UNP for presidential candidacy

Premadasa wants secret ballot to pick candidate

MEERA SRINIVASAN
COLOMBO

In the wake of a heightening contest for presidential candidacy within the ruling United National Party (UNP), deputy leader and Minister Sajith Premadasa on Tuesday said the party must hold a “secret ballot” to choose the most-preferred contender.

Addressing a media conference, the son of late President Ranasinghe Premadasa said he had written to UNP leader and Prime Minister Ranil Wickremesinghe expressing his interest to run for presidency, in the polls scheduled before the end of the year.

“If there are contra-opi-



Sajith Premadasa

nions, we should follow a democratic process within the party,” he said, pointing to “consensus buildings meetings”, involving the parliamentary group and party working committee, and a possible vote within the party. So far, Leader of Opposition and former President Mahinda Rajapaksa has named his brother Gotabaya Rajapaksa as presidential candidate from their Sri Lan-

ka Podujana Peramuna (SLPP), while the leftist Janatha Vimukthi Peramuna (JVP) is fielding its leader Anura Kumara Dissanayake.

Three contenders

The UNP has three contenders for the office of the country’s executive president – PM Wickremesinghe, Mr. Premadasa and Speaker Karu Jayasuriya. Though many in the party, especially its grassroots activists, are said to be backing Mr. Premadasa, his critics argue that he may not be the “unifying force” that is needed to consolidate both the Sinhala-majority and minority vote.

Meanwhile, referring to his possible candidacy for the first time, Mr. Jayasuriya on Tuesday said the Buddhist clergy and civil society had urged him to consider contesting in the presiden-

tial race. “Any prospect of my accepting a nomination to contest as a presidential candidate would be conditioned upon the support of all forces united behind the critical objective of abolishing the executive presidency, which has been the objective of civil society since 1995,” he said in a statement, reviving a promise made by different presidential hopefuls since 1994, and kept by none.

‘People’s will’

Mr. Premadasa, apparently ambivalent on the issue, earlier told media persons that there was “no scientific survey” so far establishing that the people of the country wanted executive presidency abolished, and that he would act “according to the people’s will”.

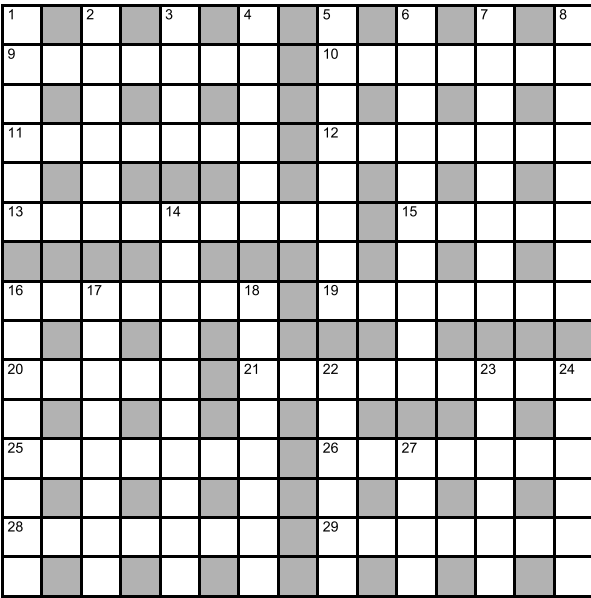
Amid persisting uncer-

tainty in the UNP, TNA Leader R. Sampanthan and his team of parliamentarians on Tuesday met Mr. Wickremesinghe. The TNA’s position is being closely watched, given that the minority Tamil vote is likely to play a crucial role.

“Our leader conveyed to the PM that the presidential candidate was a matter for the UNP to decide, and that the TNA will neither interfere, nor influence that decision,” TNA spokesman M.A. Sumanthiran told *The Hindu*.

Further, the TNA said their expectations were clearly laid out – a political solution to the national question with no further delay, and the abolition of executive presidency. Mr. Sampanthan also told the PM that while the TNA would talk to all candidates, a final decision will be taken later.

THE HINDU CROSSWORD 12733



■ ACROSS

- 9 Targeted at the centre, anti-corruption crusader’s cry (7)
- 10 Fatter and true reflection covering the radii at equal intervals (7)
- 11 In other words, I’ll face adverse weather (7)
- 12 Flipped over and over (7)

- 13 Committed a crime as the child slept (9)
- 15 Moldable depth in the vane... (5)
- 16 ...team otherwise will break for tea (7)
- 19 One third of the country will gather by the countryside (7)
- 20 Excellent deal, point taken (5)
- 21 Reversal on last test for Ashes holder (5,4)
- 25 Silent place inside a small bagpipe (7)
- 26 A flower for sweetheart (7)
- 28 Hate to prance before court, essentially (7)
- 29 I am only making this regular payment (7)

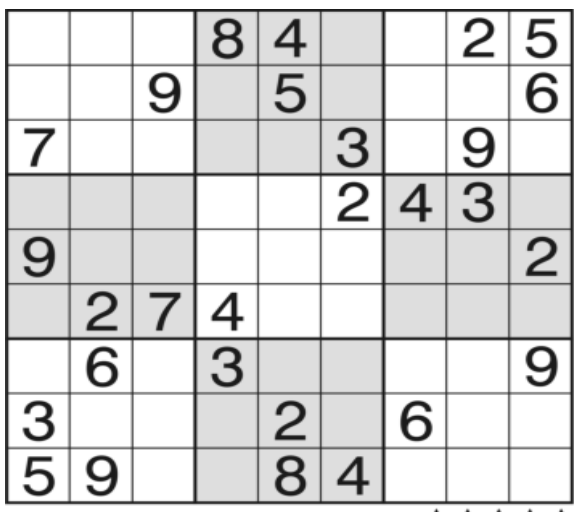
■ DOWN

- 1 Talent said to endure (6)
- 2 Regularly ransack and finish up (6)
- 3 Point out regular pairs of old South Americans (4)

(set by Arden)

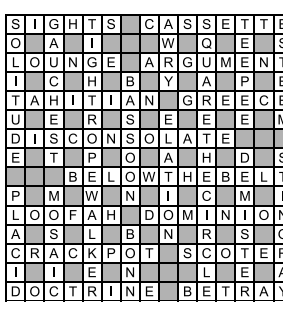
- 4 Republicans allow everyone to run (6)
- 5 Movement of water mostly below the fish (8)
- 6 Live under shade, even priest belongs to a special unit (5,5)
- 7 Fortune in hurricane season? (8)
- 8 Doctor urged no drink outside, it’s donkeywork (8)
- 14 A bishop’s answer is pardon (10)
- 16 Intend to have mesh made of wool... (8)
- 17 ...yet Carol provides service (8)
- 18 A raised hat, makes sure they are neophytes (8)
- 22 Test done internally, not on trauma (6)
- 23 Harmony is one issue (6)
- 24 One under terrible agony in the city (6)
- 27 Trio will evenly make it muddy (4)

SUDOKU



DIFFICULTY RATING: ★★★★★☆

Solution to puzzle 12732



Solution to yesterday’s Sudoku



FAITH

Overwhelming experience

Sage Suka’s mind is fully absorbed in the boundless compassion of Krishna when he relates the Kuchela episode to Parikshit, says the Suta Pauranika. The story is a small one, but the message is profound in many ways, pointed out Sri Kesava Dikshitar in a discourse. Kuchela is steeped in Bhakti bhava and is aware of Krishna’s Paratva. He is not upset by the family’s poverty-stricken circumstances. He accepts it as a matter of fact and goes about his householder’s duties. But his wife wishes a better deal for the children and so asks Kuchela to visit Krishna in Dwaraka. After all, they had been together during their student days. She gives him a bundle of flattened rice to be offered to Krishna. Kuchela makes his trek to Dwaraka happy at the thought of seeing Krishna. On reaching Dwaraka, he is welcomed by Krishna with such warmth and kindness. Krishna, the embodiment of auspiciousness honours Kuchela by washing his feet. When Kuchela hesitates to offer the flattened rice, Krishna forcibly takes it and relishes it. An overwhelmed Kuchela on his way back after an exhilarating experience with the Lord and His consort in Dwaraka ruminates over all the happenings. How can any display of love by a bhakta come anywhere near that of the Lord’s penchant for His devotee? He showers His grace even as clouds give rains for sustaining life on earth. While what He gives is immeasurable, whatever a bhakta offers him, even as the flattened rice as in his case, is accepted so graciously and with such unassuming satisfaction. Kuchela wishes to be blessed to live in a state of mind that always dwells on the Lord and also in the company of devotees. Kuchela finds that Krishna has blessed him and his family with prosperity. It shows that selfless love to God can liberate one from the shackles of samsara.

The two sides of a job fair

Online recruitment may be the future, but traditional hiring will not be a thing of the past

LIFFY THOMAS

Twenty thousand candidates. Four thousand jobs up for grabs. All in one day. Those are some numbers from a job fair organised recently by Amity University, ODL. They may pale in comparison to many other job fairs witnessed in recent times. But this job fair was conducted virtually, in an environment that simulated a physical job fair.

The participating companies had their booths. Interviews were done on video chat. Offer letters were given the same day, digitally.

“This is our third virtual job fair and we are getting better and better organising it,” says Shwetank Tandon, head of Corporate Resource Centre, Amity University, ODL.

This growth only demonstrates the increasing popularity of online job fairs. However, compared to the West, the concept is still embryonic in India.

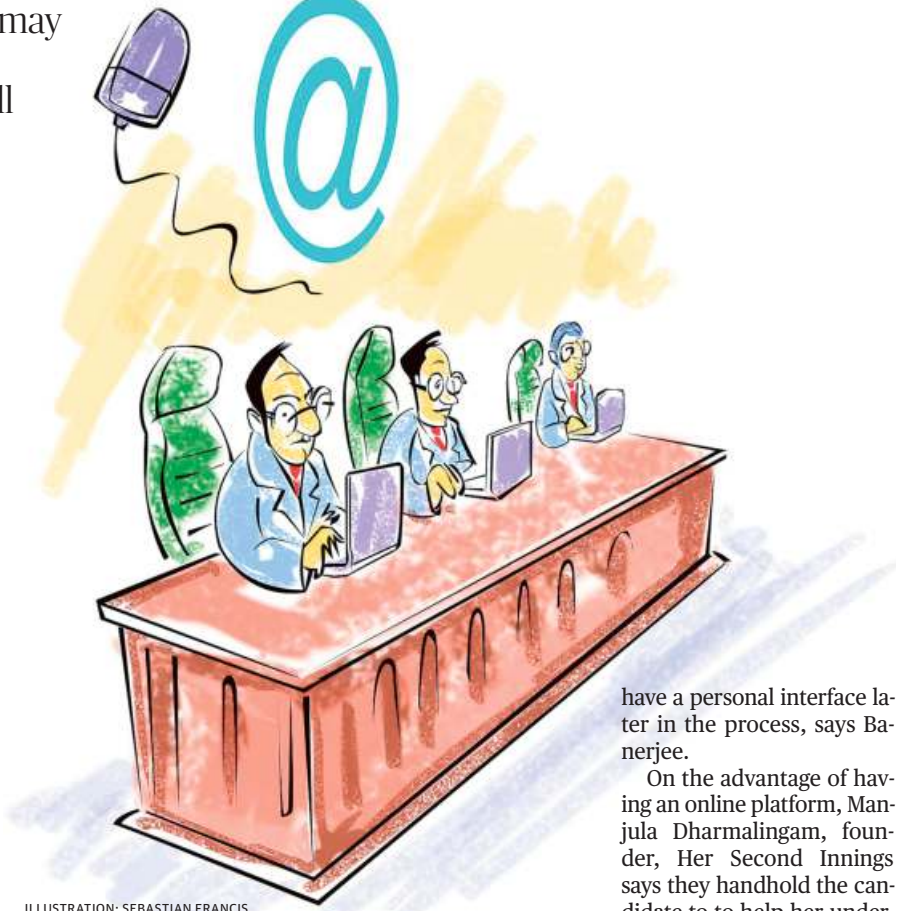


ILLUSTRATION: SEBASTIAN FRANCIS

Virtual fairs are being tried out in India, but it is yet to scale up, says Kaushik Banerjee, vice president and business head, Team-lease E-hire.

Concern over fake resumes and exaggerated claims often forces many companies to settle for the tested physical job fairs. Even those that want to recruit online, would want to

have a personal interface later in the process, says Banerjee.

On the advantage of having an online platform, Manjula Dharmalingam, founder, Her Second Innings says they handhold the candidate to help her understand if she is ready to take up a job or needs “counselling”. During the month-long virtual event, two days are allotted for meeting clients. “This shortens the recruitment time for a client. Be-

sides, as all key decision makers are part of any online recruitment process, hiring is quick,” she says, adding that the company will be conducting its second virtual career fair soon.

Online and offline

So, many companies go in for a *via media* recruiting candidates both offline and online. For example, Jobs-ForHer has been organising both physical and online interviews for three years now, with the online platform used only for the preliminary round.

Under its “premium jobs”, Freshersworld carries out a series of technology-

based selection processes to hire candidates for an employer, but for the final round, the shortlisted candidates have to visit the company.

Leveraging technology is another challenge.

“We took help from a vendor in Dubai to help set up the whole digital environment, where registration, screening and interview took place together and candidates got access from their desktop/smartphone,” says Tandon.

Online job fairs will get bigger in the days to come, but can never replace the traditional element of face-to-face meetings. Only that this component will be seamlessly integrated into these fairs.

As all key decision makers can be part of any online recruitment process, hiring is quick



The leader as narrator of an overarching story

When negative perceptions set in, it takes interpretative intelligence to retell narratives that are out of alignment with organisational goals



Photo used for representational purpose. GETTY IMAGES

PRINCE FREDERICK

Of the intelligences stacked in a leader's fat multi-level toolkit, interpretative intelligence usually occupies the lowest shelf. It is one of the foremost leadership tools though. It helps leaders reshape perception and create a powerful narrative – an overarching narrative that reshapes those narratives that may be out of alignment with organisational goals.

Irrespective of their place on the leadership totem-pole, every leader needs interpretative intelligence to function effectively in their role.

A. Geethan, organisational development professional and founder of Nibanna Counselling and Psychotherapy Centre, says at every level of an organisation, perceptions will sit disguised as reality.

Reshaping perception

If left unchecked, they will become the reality they

Where the CEO saw ‘delay in delivery of a project’, the subordinates were seeing ‘purposeful procrastination’

pretend to be, for better or for worse. Usually, for worse.

“Perception is reality. What team members perceive to be true is their reality. They are going to hold on to it till they see a reason to revise it. It is usually the rope-and-snake situation, where the rope can be mistaken for a snake and vice versa. When a team-member thinks that the leader is not supportive, they will see a harmful snake and their response will be based on that perception. It does not matter that what lies out there is just a useful rope. Similarly, when there is a snake, they may see only a rope. If this perception is not countered, there will be complacency where one should find urgency,” says Geethan.

T.T. Srinath, organisational and behavioural consultant and author of *Creating Winning Relationships*

Through Conversations With Self, says that in almost every area of engagement with their teams, leaders will be combating differences in perception, consciously or unconsciously. They have to assume there will be differences, and ask the right questions. Doing so will unmask mismatch between perceptions.

“During an intervention programme at a company, which required me to interact with its employees, I realised that where the CEO saw ‘delay in delivery of a project’, the subordinates were just seeing ‘purposeful procrastination’, which they sincerely believed to be contributing to the quality of their work,” says Srinath.

Shared reality

This is one of many situations where leaders have to work towards creating a shared reality, where both

perceptions can be juxtaposed, but only to the extent that they promote efficiency and productivity.

“Without a shared reality, organisations can't function smoothly. The only way to do it is through dialogue. It is called dialogic organisation development (DOD). It alone can lead to perception being updated. It's the leader who has to lead the process, without being condescending,” says Geethan. An effective narrative is not so much about telling as about listening. Says Geethan, “The leader's narrative should be built with the power of empathetic listening. It has to be a shared narrative with inputs from team members. Only when leaders decode their team members' stories can they encode theirs.

“They can't impose their narrative on the team. The leader's narrative will not resonate with them, unless team members see their stories – at least, parts of it – are woven into it.”

GENERAL

INSTITUTE OF FASHION TECHNOLOGY KERALA
(Government of Kerala)
Vellimon West P.O., Kollam, Kerala 691511
Phone 0474 2547775 / 2548798 / 2549787
Website: www.iftk.ac.in

Recruitment of Faculty Positions on Contract Basis

No. IFTK(B)325/2019 Date: 17.09.2019

Institute of Fashion Technology Kerala (IFTK), invites application for the post of Faculty position on contract basis. The qualification, experience etc. for the required post is available in www.iftk.ac.in. The last date for the submission of application along with the prescribed fee and documents at IFTK is 01/10/2019, 5.00 PM. For more details visit : www.iftk.ac.in

Sd/- Principal

KERALA INFRASTRUCTURE INVESTMENT FUND BOARD
3rd Floor, Felicity Square Building, Statue, MG Road
Thiruvananthapuram-695 001, Ph :0471-2780900, email : info@kiifb.org

Invites applications for the post of General Manager (Environmental, Social & Governance).

Educational qualification- Post Graduate Degree or Equivalent in one of the following fields: Finance / Economics / Management / Environmental Science / Economics / Social Sciences / Engineering

***Additional Weightage** for candidates having additional qualification in ESG& Sustainability.

Experience- A minimum of 15 years over all work experience and 10 years specific work experience in ESG and Sustainability. Additional weightage for candidates having experience in ESG functions of banks and financial institutions

No. of Post- 1, Upper Age Limit: 55 years, Term of appointment: 3 year contract. Last date of Application: 04.10.2019

For further details and submission of application through online mode please visit our website: www.kiifb.org/careers

INSTITUTE OF BANKING PERSONNEL SELECTION
Website: www.ibps.in
In case of queries / complaints please log in to <http://cgrrs.ibps.in/>

COMMON RECRUITMENT PROCESS FOR RECRUITMENT OF CLERKS IN PARTICIPATING ORGANISATIONS (CRP CLERKS-IX FOR VACANCIES OF 2020-21)

The online examination (Preliminary and Main) for the next Common Recruitment Process for selection of personnel for Clerical cadre Posts in the Participating Organisations is tentatively scheduled in December 2019 & January 2020.

The tentative schedule of events is as follows:

Activity	Tentative Dates
On-line registration including Edit/Modification of Application by candidates	17.09.2019 to 09.10.2019
Payment of Application Fees/ Intimation Charges (Online)	17.09.2019 to 09.10.2019
Download of call letters for Pre - Exam Training	November 2019
Conduct of Pre-Exam Training	25.11.2019 to 30.11.2019
Download of call letters for Online Examination - Preliminary	November 2019
Online Examination - Preliminary	07.12.2019, 08.12.2019, 14.12.2019 & 21.12.2019
Result of Online Exam - Preliminary	December 2019/January 2020
Download of Call letter for Online Exam - Main	January 2020
Online Examination - Main	19.01.2020
Provisional Allotment	April 2020

Candidates are advised to regularly keep in touch with the authorised IBPS website www.ibps.in for details and updates.

Before registering online candidates are advised to read the detailed notification and follow the instructions mentioned therein.

Mumbai Date: 12.09.2019 Director IBPS

NEWS BYTES

Funding early-stage ventures

DBS Foundation is inviting innovative start-ups and early-stage ventures seeking to solve social and environmental issues to apply for a grant.

According to a press release, the award of SGD 150,000 includes SGD 100,000 in prize money, along with non-monetary support in the form of capacity building and mentoring by the senior management.

The DBS Foundation Social Impact Prize aims to identify sustainable, scalable and enterprising business solutions from across the world that help address crucial social problems and make cities of the future more inclusive, healthier and greener, added the release.

The last date for submission of nominations is November 17.

For details, visit go.dbs.com/SIP or <https://www.smu.edu.sg/lky>.

Recognising women entrepreneurs

NITI Aayog has launched the fourth edition of Women Transforming India (WTI) Awards in collaboration with the United Nations. This Government of India initiative is aimed at supporting aspiring as well as established women entrepreneurs in India, assist

and handhold them in their journey from starting to scaling up and in expanding their ventures. Not only those with established enterprises, even those seeking to be an entrepreneur can apply.

For details, visit <https://wep.gov.in>.

A few changes to TOEFL

From August 1, 2019, all TOEFL iBT(r) test takers will benefit from enhancements to the test format and score reporting. TOEFL(r) test time is being shortened by 30 minutes – to just three hours – with no changes to the overall test format or question types.

In addition, the new MyBest(tm) scores feature will combine test takers' best scores for each section from all valid TOEFL iBT scores from the previous two years. MyBest scores allows test takers to show their best overall test performance to institutions making important admissions decisions. All TOEFL iBT score reports sent after August 1, 2019, regardless of the test administration date, will automatically include MyBest scores along with the traditional scores from the test taker's selected test date.

ANI

SENTINI GROUP

Sentini Group is upcoming industrial conglomerate having business interests in Ceramics, Bio products (ENA), Beverages, Hospitals, Alumina bricks, Fire tenders & IT industries.

The group has entered in to production & marketing of CPVC, UPVC, SWR pipes & fittings under the name of Sentini Flopias India (PI) Ltd., factory located in Nellore district of A.P. The SFPI need the following personnel in Sales department in all district towns of A.P, Telangana, Tamilandu, Karnataka, Kerala, Orissa, West Bengal, Jharkhand & Chattisgarh.

S.No	Designation	Qualification	Experience
1.	AGM	MBA / Diploma in Marketing	15 to 20 Yrs
2.	Area Sales Manger	MBA / Diploma in Marketing	5 to 8 Yrs
3.	Executive/Sr Executive-Sales	MBA / Any Graduate	3 to 5 Yrs

Candidates should have work experience in Sales departments of CPVC, UPVC, SWR pipes & fittings in reputed companies. The Compensation will be at par with best in the industry.

Interested candidates may apply in confidence to SrVP (HR), Sentini Group, Plot No.1229, Road No.60, Jubilee Hills, Hyderabad, Telangana-500033. (OR) Email CV's to srvphr@sentinigroup.com within 15 days.

RESERVE BANK OF INDIA SERVICES BOARD, MUMBAI
भारतीय रिज़र्व बैंक सर्विसेज़ बोर्ड, मुंबई
www.rbi.org.in

ADVT.No.1/2019-20

1. Applications are invited for recruitment to following posts in the Reserve Bank of India.

Sr. No	Posts	Vacancies
1	Officers in Grade 'B' (DR)-General	156
2	Officers in Grade 'B' (DR)-DEPR*	20
3	Officers in Grade 'B' (DR)-DSIM@	23

* Department of Economic and Policy Research
@Department of Statistics and Information Management

2. For all other details such as eligibility criteria, reservation of vacancies, scheme of selection, submission of on-line application and other instructions, please refer to the detailed advertisement to be published on the Bank's website (www.rbi.org.in) on September 20, 2019 and in the Employment News / Rozgar Samachar on September 28, 2019 / subsequent issue. Candidates can apply for these posts only by online mode through the Bank's website.

3. **IMPORTANT DATES**

Website Link Open- For online Registration of Applications & Payment of Fees/ Intimation Charges	September 21, 2019 to October 11, 2019
Gr B (DR)-General-Phase I & DEPR/DSIM Paper I examinations	November 9, 2019
Gr B (DR)-General-Phase II examinations	December 1, 2019
Gr B (DR) - DEPR / DSIM Paper II & III examinations	December 2, 2019

NOTE: Corrigendum, if any, issued on the above advertisement, will be published only on the Bank's website.

OVERSEAS

MINISTRY OF HEALTH OMAN REQUIRED DOCTORS

Final walk in client interview with MOH panel from 23rd to 28th Sept. at Bangalore

Email your cv and call us to schedule your interview and get the interview date

CONSULTANT (GRADE 2) • Obstetrics & Gynaecology • Critical Care • Internal Medicine • General Anaesthesia • Emergency Medicine • Package Salary- OR 4270 • MBBS • Internship + MD/MS or equivalent +12 yrs of exp. in the specialty.

SENIOR SPECIALIST (GRADE 3) • Obstetrics & Gynaecology • Emergency Medicine • Neonatology • Radiologist (mammography) • Package Salary - OR 3350 • MBBS • Internship + MD/MS or equivalent + 9 yrs exp. in the specialty after the Master.

SPECIALIST (GRADE 6) • Obstetrics & Gynaecology • Cardiac Anaesthesia • Emergency Medicine • General Anaesthesia • Radiologist (mammography) • Package Salary - OR 2045 • MBBS • Internship + MD/MS or equivalent + 3 yrs of exp. after the Master.

MEDICAL OFFICER (GRADE 9) • Obstetrics & Gynaecology • General Anaesthesia • Emergency Medicine • Package Salary - OR 1441 • MBBS or equivalent + 4 yrs exp. • The last 3 yrs of medical practice should be full time in the specialty • Practice in privately owned unregistered clinic is not acceptable.

Certificate from the old soviet Union & eastern European countries won't be considered.

Email: moh@gheewalajobs.com call 8108108942 / 9188747749 / 9188720084

FGHEEWALA 408, Rex Chambers, Near C.S.T. Station, Ballard Estate, Mumbai-400 038.

Visit www.gheewalajobs.com LICENSE NO.: B-0766/MUM/PART/1000/5/9/18/2013

Hiring Faculty for Govt. Ethiopian Universities

Large number of vacancies in Engineering, Acct. / Business & Economics, Pharmacy, Nursing & Health Sciences.

Salary range : Rs.1,04,000/- to Rs.2,27,000/- p.m. Free Air Tickets, etc. Refer www.globalplacements.ind.in for details of qualification, vacancies, experience, dates & venue of the interviews, etc.

Please email your detailed CV, mentioning your subject / specialization to: faculty@globalplacements.ind.in within 7 days. Candidates who have applied to us in the last four months need not apply again.

SKYPE interviews starts from 29th September, 2019.

218, Amrutha Ville, Raj Bhavan Road, Somajiguda, Hyderabad-82. Ph: 040-23306978. Website: www.globalplacements.ind.in

GLOBAL PLACEMENTS

MARKET WATCH

	17-09-2019	% CHANGE
Sensex	36,481	-1.73
US Dollar	71.79	-0.26
Gold	38,905	-0.38
Brent oil	64.66	-4.54

NIFTY 50

	PRICE	CHANGE
Adani Ports	365.30	-5.30
Asian Paints	1530.90	9.60
Axis Bank	640.45	-30.45
Bajaj Auto	2773.15	-101.30
Bajaj Finserv	7150.50	-129.75
Bajaj Finance	3368.40	-50.45
Bharti Airtel	339.85	-4.15
BPCIL	368.75	-11.25
Britannia Ind	2692.45	-22.60
Cipla	460.65	-9.85
Coal India	197.60	-2.95
Dr Reddys Lab	2738.05	12.75
Eicher Motors	16284.95	-479.35
GAIL (India)	131.90	2.20
Grasim Ind	700.95	-15.75
HCL Tech	1055.85	-14.05
HDFC	1996.25	-50.50
HDFC Bank	2211.35	-32.80
Hero MotoCorp	2568.95	-169.70
Hindalco	197.95	-2.45
Hind Unilever	1831.20	14.90
Indiabulls HFL	429.15	-6.10
ICICI Bank	400.65	-11.50
IndusInd Bank	1332.60	-43.35
Bharti Infratel	250.20	-1.75
Infosys	831.25	3.55
Indian OilCorp	125.20	-3.35
ITC	237.20	-2.20
JSW Steel	216.20	-9.45
Kotak Bank	1448.30	-26.65
L&T	1313.70	-29.90
M&M	521.95	-15.00
Maruti Suzuki	6130.40	-282.35
NTPC	120.90	-2.35
ONGC	129.70	-1.00
PowerGrid Corp	200.45	-1.70
Reliance Ind	1197.45	-13.30
State Bank	273.95	-10.75
Sun Pharma	420.65	-6.15
Tata Motors	122.00	-6.60
Tata Steel	344.95	-16.15
TCS	2122.65	-27.35
Tech Mahindra	705.95	-13.50
Titan	1158.25	9.70
UltraTech Cement	3900.40	-92.45
UPL	563.30	-0.80
Vedanta	145.40	-3.25
Wipro	244.15	-2.95
YES Bank	65.10	-1.95
Zee Entertainment	337.35	-7.60

EXCHANGE RATES

Indicative direct rates in rupees a unit except yen at 4 p.m. on September 17

CURRENCY	TT BUY	TT SELL
US Dollar	71.58	71.90
Euro	78.93	79.28
British Pound	88.85	89.25
Japanese Yen (100)	66.19	66.49
Chinese Yuan	10.09	10.13
Swiss Franc	71.97	72.30
Singapore Dollar	52.01	52.26
Canadian Dollar	53.99	54.25
Malaysian Ringitt	17.11	17.21

Source:Indian Bank

BULLION RATES CHENNAI

September 17 rates in rupees with previous rates in parentheses

Retail Silver (1g)	50.4	(50.3)
22 ct gold (1 g)	3615	(3620)

SEBI bars Gautam Thapar from accessing capital market

Regulator orders forensic audit to check books of accounts of CG Power

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
MUMBAI

The Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI) has barred Gautam Thapar, chairman, CG Power & Industrial Solutions along with senior officials of the company from accessing the capital market for their alleged role in siphoning off money from the listed firm.

The capital markets regulator has also ordered a forensic audit to verify allegations of manipulation and misrepresentation in the books of accounts of the company.

Loss to shareholders

“Acts on the part of the noticees have resulted in the shareholders of CG Power losing the value of their shareholding which amounts to a ‘fraud’ on its public investors,” SEBI whole time member G. Mahalingam said in a



Firm action: SEBI has also barred past directors Madhav Acharya and B. Hariharan and CFO V.R. Venkatesh. ■ REUTERS

32-page order. Apart from Mr. Thapar, the watchdog has barred past directors Madhav Acharya and B. Hariharan and chief financial officer V.R. Venkatesh.

On August 20, the firm disclosed that it had found certain unauthorised transactions by the employees of the company and also a letter from a financing company regarding failure of inter-

est payment.

Further, it said that the total liabilities of the company and the group “may have been potentially understated” by approximately ₹1,053.54 crore and ₹1,608.17 crore respectively, as on March 31, 2018, and by ₹601.83 crore and ₹401.83 crore, respectively as on April 1, 2017.

Meanwhile, the SEBI

probe found irregularities in the manner of sale of certain real estate assets of the company.

“The transactions are prima facie designed to divert/siphon off money from the listed company, which rightfully belongs to its shareholders,” the SEBI order said.

“While some information has emerged on the basis of a preliminary examination, a detailed forensic audit could bring out the complete picture and the extent of the misstatement/misappropriation,” it added, while directing the BSE to appoint an independent auditor or audit firm.

The auditor’s mandate would be to check if there were any instances of manipulation of the financials of the company or any kind of misrepresentation, wrongful diversion/siphoning of company funds.

Lots of asset monetisation in coming months: Kant

Govt. to privatise roads, airports, power transmission and shipping terminals

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
MUMBAI

For India to become a \$5 trillion economy, the wealth will have to be created by the private sector and hence the government will privatise a lot of its assets across sectors in the coming months, said Amitabh Kant, chief executive officer, Niti Aayog.

“The government wants to be a facilitator and a catalyst, the wealth must be created by the private sector,” Mr. Kant said while speaking at the Morningstar Investment Conference.

“And this would require us



Amitabh Kant

to do several things which are both cyclical and structural... And therefore in the months to come, we will do a lot of asset monetisation and asset recycling,” he added.

The 1980 batch Indian Administrative Services (IAS) officer further said that the government would privatise assets like roads, airports, power transmission and shipping terminals.

It is necessary to do that so that the private sector can come in and along with that credit flow can start, he said. On a different note, he said that structural reforms for the agricultural sector would soon be announced as the Committee of Chief Ministers headed by Devendra Fadnavis to suggest such reforms is on the verge of fi-

nalising its report.

“I’m sure that this would lead to some major structural reforms in the agricultural sector as well,” Mr. Kant said, adding that agriculture, along with gender parity and exports, were the key elements for India to grow significantly over a long period of time.

“India has a very vibrant private sector and a government which has the political will and the determination to take India to a \$5 trillion economy. No doubt that will be achieved by 2024,” he concluded.

Rupee weak for second day, closes at 71.79 a dollar

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
MUMBAI

After weakening close to 1% in the previous session, the rupee dropped another 0.27% on Tuesday as crude oil prices stayed elevated after the drone attacks on Saudi Arabia’s oil facilities.

After opening at 71.83 a dollar as compared to previous close of 71.60, the rupee hit the day’s low of 71.98 before closing at 71.79 a dollar.

Elevated crude oil prices will weaken the country’s macroeconomic fundamentals like inflation and current account deficit as India imports over 80% of its requirements.

Oil price surge

“It remains to be seen if Monday’s [oil] price surge sustains. If it does, it could complicate the economy’s macroeconomic outlook, as sensitivity of external balances to oil prices is high,” said Radhika Rao, economist, DBS Bank.

DBS’s FX Strategist team maintains that emerging Asian currencies, most at the risk of higher oil prices, are from the countries with the biggest oil trade deficits.

These include the won, baht and rupee, while the ringgit will be the most resilient.

Crude oil benchmark, Brent Futures, surged by almost 20% to \$71.95 per barrel (intra-day) on Monday, after twin drone attacks on Saturday wiped out more than half of Saudi Arabia’s crude supply.

However, Brent Futures on Tuesday saw some moderation and was trading at \$68.07 per barrel, down 1.38% over the previous close.



Calling India: The iPhone maker has sought incentives to boost smartphone exports from the country. ■ REUTERS

Apple exports could touch \$1 bn this year

Firm seeks sector-specific policy

YUTHIKA BHARGAVA
NEW DELHI

Technology giant Apple’s exports via its OEM partners from India are likely to touch \$1 billion in the current year amid the Centre’s push to expand the manufacturing base and make the country an export hub.

“Apple started manufacturing in 2017 and within the last two years, they have gone from zero to \$0.5 billion in exports. Their exports through partners are expected to touch \$1 billion in 2019,” an official source told *The Hindu*.

The U.S.- headquartered company currently manufactures two iPhone models in India – iPhone 6S and iPhone 7. Earlier, it was also producing iPhone SE. The company was also to begin manufacturing iPhone 8 and iPhone XR in the country before the end of 2019.

Exporting accessories

Apple, which undertakes manufacturing in India via contract manufacturers, has also started exporting accessories from the country, the official said. Apple did not respond to the story till the time of going to the press.

On Monday, after a meeting with over 50 CEOs from

the electronics industry, Electronics and IT Minister Ravi Shankar Prasad told Apple to form a “robust” presence in India and that their investment till now in the country was just a “tip of the iceberg.”

‘Stable regime’

The official added that Apple had sought a “stable and predictable” regime before it looks at shifting or expanding its well-established manufacturing base from China to India.

“They have also clarified that they do not seek specific concession for manufacturing in India and exports, but have sought a sector-specific policy and incentives to boost smartphone exports and make India competitive with China and Vietnam.”

According to an industry expert, India has a 12-18% disability in cost of manufacturing vis-a-vis China and Vietnam – the two largest smartphone exporters in the world – due to infrastructure, logistics, taxes, cost of land etc.

In addition, India’s labour cost arbitrage doesn’t help Apple much as it constitutes only 1% of the total iPhone manufacturing cost.

+ Ramamoorthy is Cognizant India CMD

He will build management and operating committees

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
CHENNAI

Nasdaq listed IT firm Cognizant has elevated Ramkumar Ramamoorthy as chairman and managing director of Cognizant India, and named him head of India operations. He will be reporting directly to the company’s executive committee.

Cognizant CEO Brian Humphries in an email to Cognizant employees on September 17, said, “In the weeks ahead, [Mr.] Ramkumar will be establishing both a management committee and an operating committee for India.

“These committees will help us further strengthen our operations in the country, proactively advance our agenda as we engage with the media and government, drive greater diversity and inclusion throughout our organisation, and extend our



Ramkumar Ramamoorthy

corporate citizenship efforts and our reputation as an employer of choice as we work to accelerate Cognizant’s top-line growth.”

Mr. Ramamoorthy told *The Hindu* that his immediate priorities will be to build a management committee and an operating committee in India to further strengthen the firm’s operations across 13 cities in India. “Secondly, given the digital disruptions happen-

ing across industries, we want to sustain our position as an employer of choice in campuses and the lateral market, and extend our recruiting engine beyond traditional engineering and management disciplines to data science, artificial intelligence (AI), cybersecurity, IoT as well as human sciences,” he added.

In the last 18 months, Cognizant has upskilled and reskilled over 1,40,000 employees globally.

Shift in hiring profile

In terms of hiring, Mr. Ramamoorthy said, “We will see a shift in the profile of hiring. From hiring for generic technology skills, we are already seeing hiring for niche skills, including data science, artificial intelligence, IoT, digital strategy and design, DevOps and agile, among others.”

In the past five years (ca-

lendar years 2014 to 2018), Cognizant saw a net headcount addition of over 66,000 professionals in India, and in the first two quarters of this year (January to June 2019), Cognizant saw a net headcount addition of over 7,000 professionals.

During his 21 years with Cognizant, Mr. Ramamoorthy has helped architect and shape Cognizant’s leadership position and brand.

He is a member of the company’s global Executive Leadership Team (ELT) responsible for driving the company’s strategy and operations and has held various senior positions in the company, including executive director, India, senior vice president (marketing and communications) and chief knowledge officer.

He has incubated and nurtured several portfolios at Cognizant.

Tata Power arm to exit JV

Stake sale in South Africa’s Cennergi to fetch \$106 million

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
MUMBAI

Tata Power’s wholly owned subsidiary Khopoli Investments Ltd. has executed a share purchase agreement with Exxaro Resources Ltd. for the divestment of the company’s entire 50% stake in Cennergi, a South African joint venture, for \$106 million subject to normal working capital and other adjustments.

“The agreement will be subject to, amongst others, normal regulatory approvals customary for this type of transaction. Cennergi (Pty) Ltd. is a 50:50 joint venture between Exxaro Resources Ltd. and Khopoli Investments Ltd.,” said Tata Power in a statement.

Exxaro is a leading South African coal producer and under the agreement, Exxaro will acquire the entire 50% shareholding of Khopo-



Praveer Sinha

li Investments Ltd.

The agreement is likely to be completed by Q3FY20 and post this transaction, Exxaro would have 100% ownership of Cennergi.

Monetising asset

“The decision to monetise this South African asset is in alignment with our stated strategy to deleverage the balance sheet by divesting sub-optimal size international assets,” said Praveer Sinha, CEO and MD, Tata

Power.

“The proceeds from such sale would be re-invested in emerging areas where there is a huge growth opportunity. The company will focus on renewable power, power distribution and service-led businesses in India which will bring in greater value and help us align with the emerging consumer needs,” he added.

Cennergi owns two wind farms in South Africa – Amakhala Emoyeni (with a generation capacity of 134.4 MW and 95% shareholding) and Tsitsikamma Community Wind Farm (with a generation capacity of 95.3 MW and 75% shareholding). Each project has a 20-year power purchase agreement (PPA) with the State power utility Eskom. Tata Power shares on BSE closed down 0.62% at ₹63.95 in a weak Mumbai market on Tuesday.

+ Oil companies hike petrol, diesel prices

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
MUMBAI

State-owned oil marketing companies (OMCs) have increased the price of petrol by up to 14 paise per litre and price of diesel by up to 16 paise per litre with effect from Tuesday morning in the four metros, according to data from Indian Oil Corporation Limited (IOCL).

The prices may go up to ₹5 per litre each for petrol and diesel in the coming fortnight if global crude oil prices stay at the current levels. The price of petrol has been increased by 14 paise per litre in New Delhi, Mumbai and Chennai, and by 13 paise per litre in Kolkata.

Diesel price has been increased by 15 paise per litre in New Delhi and Kolkata and 16 paise per litre in Chennai and Mumbai.

Export promotion councils chalk out strategy to meet targets

Move to achieve \$1 trillion in 5 years envisaged by govt.

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
MUMBAI

In line with the Union Commerce Ministry’s target to triple India’s exports from \$331 billion to \$1 trillion in five years, export promotion councils have chalked out plans to achieve the same.

“This means almost doubling exports of the sector in the next five years,” said R. Veeramani, president, Capexil.

Capexil promotes the shipments of chemical and allied products that contribute more than 7% of India’s total merchandise exports.

“The export target fixed for Capexil products is \$25.57 billion for the year 2019-20, which marks a substantial growth compared to \$22.24 billion in 2017-18,” he said.



He said the exports of minerals and ore, which grew 9.39% and non-mineral products, which grew 22.42% compared with 2017-18, were set to grow further.

Chemexil, the export promotion council for basic chemicals, dyes, dye intermediates, agrochemicals and cosmetics, is wooing overseas buyers to boost exports.

Ajay K. Kadakia, chairman, Chemexil said the focus for this year is to grow exports in the fields of specialty chemicals, polymers and agrochemicals.

Ravish Kamath, chairman, Plexconcil, which promotes plastics’ exports, said, “Globally plastics is a \$1 trillion economy and this demonstrates the vast potential that the segment holds for our fraternity in the areas of automotive, construction, electronics, healthcare, textiles and FMCG.” He said India’s plastics exports in 2018-19 were worth \$10.89 billion against \$8.85 billion in 2017-18, up 24% and this year, it is expected to grow further as efforts were on to boost exports to more than 210 countries.

Coffee Day board clears IT park sale to Blackstone

130-acre park is valued at ₹2,700 crore

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
BENGALURU

Coffee Day Enterprises has signed definitive agreements with the New York-based private equity player Blackstone and domestic realty firm Salarpuria Sattva Group, for a sale of its 130-acre Global Village Tech Park on Mysore Road, in the outskirts of the city.

The company board has approved this sale as part of efforts to raise funds to clear off its debt pile.

The transaction, at an enterprise value of ₹2,700 crore, was subject to certain closing adjustments, the company said in a statement.

“With reference to above-mentioned subject and in continuation to our disclosure dated August 14, 2019, we wish to inform that the

board has approved and the company has executed the definitive agreements with entities belonging to Blackstone Group and the Salarpuria Sattva Group for investment in GV Techparks Private Limited, a wholly-owned subsidiary of Tanglin Development Limited,” it said in a stock exchange filing.

“This transaction will substantially bring down the debt level of the group, which was earlier disclosed on August 17, 2019 as ₹4,970 crore,” it said.

The closing of the transaction was subject to receipt of regulatory approvals.

Coffee Day Group has been liquidating and raising funds in the last over a month after the death of its founder chairman V.G. Siddhartha.

IT’s time to focus on new markets around globe: ESC

Japan yet to be understood, explored, says council

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
BENGALURU

It is time India developed new IT markets around the globe in addition to expanding its existing markets, suggested Electronics and Computer Software Export Promotion Council (ESC), a body supported by the Union Ministry of Commerce and Industries.

Currently, the U.S., U.K. and Europe together account for more than 86% of the country’s IT exports. “There are several new and emerging IT markets that can be explored by Indian technology providers.

“Latin America as a region, in addition to Asean countries, Africa, CIS region and the Middle East are warming up towards Indian

Currently, the U.S., U.K. and Europe together account for over 86% of IT exports

providers,” said ESC executive director D.K. Sareen.

As per ESC statistics, Latam contributed IT exports worth \$840 million in 2018 against \$671 million in the previous year.

Africa contributed \$1.2 billion in 2018 (\$1.07 billion), Asean countries brought in \$6 billion (\$5.6 billion), the CIS block, mostly comprising Armenia, Azerbaijan, Belarus, Georgia, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Moldova, Russia, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan, Ukraine and Uzbekistan, contributed \$600 million (\$582 million) and

the Middle East’s share was a sizeable \$2.3 billion in 2018 against \$2 billion in the previous year.

“Japan is another geography where Indian players are yet to make any significant dent. India’s current IT revenue exposure to Japan is some 4% as of now.

Huge market

“But it is a huge market, yet to be understood and explored as culture and language have always come as a barrier,” said Mr. Sareen.

ESC’s annual tech exposition, Indiasoft 2020, scheduled to be held between March 3 and 4, 2020 in Hyderabad will feature an exclusive exposition for companies that focus on internet of things (IoT).

IN BRIEF



IOB to offer repo rate linked loans from Oct.1

CHENNAI Public sector lender Indian Overseas Bank (IOB) has decided to link new loans to retail segment and micro and small enterprises to repo linked lending rate (RLLR). Henceforth, all the new loans under these categories will be offered with RLLR from October 1. The retail segment includes loans to housing, vehicle and education sectors. The new rates will be published on October 1, the bank said in a statement.

DHFL defaults on \$20.17 million ECB

MUMBAI Cash-strapped mortgage lender DHFL has defaulted on repayment of funds raised through external commercial borrowing, the company informed the stock exchanges. DHFL defaulted on \$20.17 million, payment for which was due on September 16 and 17. The company, which has already defaulted on commercial papers and non-convertible debentures, is negotiating with banks to implement a debt recast plan.

IL&FS, group firms to sell 494 acres of land

NEW DELHI Cash-strapped IL&FS, along with its two arms, has decided to sell a total of 494 acre land parcels in three States in a bid to generate capital and pare debt. IL&FS, IL&FS Township & Urban Assets and IL&FS Engineering and Construction Co. currently hold 9%, 40% and 31% stakes respectively in Hill County Properties Ltd. (HCPL). IL&FS group said in a notice inviting expression of interest.

Federal Bank gets into expansion mode

Lender to open 32 branches during FY20; doorstep gold loans yield ₹100 crore revenue in 4 months

N. ANAND
CHENNAI

Aluva-based Federal Bank Ltd. plans to add at least 32 new branches during the current fiscal, said a top official.

“After a gap of four-and-a-half years, we have decided to expand our branch network,” said Shyam Srinivasan, MD and CEO, Federal Bank Ltd. “During the current year, we will open over 30 branches in select locations which have strategic advantage and business potential,” he added.

Between 2011-15, Federal Bank opened 600 branches in different parts of the country. The bank recruited relationship managers, added digital capabilities, went for product innovations and strengthened its “fleet on



Spreading wings: In Tamil Nadu, the bank plans to end the year with 150 branches, says Shyam Srinivasan

street” (marketing personnel).

“Now that all these initiatives have started yielding positive results, we started branch expansion during the second quarter. Over the next five years, branch banking, per se, will not make any

sense as the number of people walking into branches will come down. So, the numbers (new branches) will be less. This calls for innovation and digital expansion,” he said.

In the last few days, the bank had opened branches

at Karaikudi (Tamil Nadu), Guntur (Andhra Pradesh) and Velachery (Chennai). Plans are afoot to open four more branches by October end and 25 more in the second half of the current fiscal. “Tamil Nadu has 136 branches and we plan to end the year with 150 branches.

“They would come up in Chennai, Salem, Erode and Coimbatore to name a few,” he said.

“Our latest offering of providing hassle-free doorstep gold loans to customers has yielded a revenue of ₹100 crore in four months. Currently, it is being offered in Kerala, Karnataka and Tamil Nadu. Soon, the product will be introduced in Odisha and Surat,” he added.

Mr. Srinivasan said Federal Bank was recently ranked

by Forbes Asia as one of the most respected companies in Asia having a sales of more than \$1 billion. From a list of 3,200 companies in APAC region, the list was narrowed down to 200 companies in Asia to 19 from India and then to two (Federal Bank being one of them) in the banking sector.

The companies were ranked on profitability, top-line growth, debt-equity ratio, governance, average sales, revenue growth and return on capital.

He also said the bank was planning to acquire a micro-finance firm with an asset base of ₹2,500 crore and had been in talks with eight to 10 companies.

To a query on loss-making branches, he said they were down to single digits.

Philips India keen on playing lead role in value-based healthcare

Huge gap in this market: Daniel Mazon

MINI TEJASWI
BENGALURU

Philips India, the Indian subsidiary of the Netherlands-based health technology major Royal Philips, said the company would play a lead role in the value-based healthcare segment in India as it sees a huge vacuum in this space in the country.

Daniel Mazon, managing director, Philips India said value-based healthcare was increasingly becoming an industry discussion across emerging economies, including India.

“Historically, healthcare has been more like: let me treat you because something has happened to you, also let me treat you as many times as needed. But how would a patient know all clinical interventions and diagnosis carried out on him/her are going to create value and good outcomes,” he said.

Mr. Mazon asserted that there existed a huge gap in the healthcare market as hospitalisation and treatments, accompanied by all kinds of diagnosis and multiple clinical interventions, alone need not create value (proper healing) for the patients.

Real solutions

“The holistic piece in health care has been missing. That’s why we have consciously made a decision to invest in healthcare and be very focussed on this space. We have moved away from mere products to real solutions. When I say value, we want to create good outcomes for patients after they are out of the hospitals. We are now more nimble-footed and are investing and inno-



Daniel Mazon

vating constantly to create technology and solutions to ensure better health,” Mr. Mazon added.

It may be recalled that the ₹20 billion conglomerate Royal Philips had gone in for a major business restructuring in 2013 to become a healthcare technology solutions provider. It made 11 acquisitions to sharpen its focus on health-related technologies, in the last six years.

Philips now introduces some 15 to 20 new healthcare and wellness solutions and devices, ranging from smart water purifiers, breathing (sleep) machines to MRI equipment, in the Indian market every year.

Mr. Mazon further said, “India is a special market for us and we want to touch every Indian by directly contributing to his health and well-being. With our pre-Independence presence since 1930, we are a household name here. We are also part of the government’s Ayushman project.”

Post consolidation, Philips has been growing in double digits in India along with other emerging healthcare markets like China, Latin America, some countries in South East Asia and Africa.

Leather exports dip 4.90% in Q1

Recessionary trends, fierce price competition hit sector

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
CHENNAI

Exports of leather, leather products and footwear from India declined by 4.90% in the first quarter of the current fiscal to \$1.3 billion following recessionary trends and fierce price competition.

In rupee terms, the exports touched ₹9,071 crore against ₹9,159 crore for the corresponding period last year, according to the figures released by the Directorate General of Commercial Intelligence and Statistics.

Exports of finished leather products dropped by 30% in dollar terms.

“We have been facing challenges on the export front due to a combination of factors such as recessionary trends and fierce price



Panaruna Aqeel

competition. Consequently, exports from the sector declined during the first quarter,” said Panaruna Aqeel, chairman, Council for Leather Exports.

“But this is only a temporary phenomenon and the sector has the potential to achieve double-digit growth levels in the coming months,” he added.

Referring to the recent announcement of the Union Finance Minister about the new scheme of Remission of Duties or Taxes on Export Products (RODTEP), he said it would be introduced by January 2020. Till then, MEIS (Merchandise Exports from India Scheme) would be in force. RODTEP would more than adequately incentivise exporters than the existing schemes put together.

“This would help enhance our price competitiveness,” he said.

He also said that easy and timely availability of credit at affordable interest levels was extremely important to the leather and footwear sector as this alone could help in tapping the huge opportunities available in the global market.

Improve wage offer, unions tell IBA

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
CHENNAI

The United Forum of Bank Unions (UFBU), the umbrella body of nine banking sector trade unions, has urged the Indian Banks’ Association (IBA) to further improve its offer for officers and workmen to seal the 11th bipartite wage settlement.

At the 20th round of wage talks between IBA and UFBU, the former agreed to improve its offer on the payslip cost from 10% to 12%. “The offer has to be at least more than 15% which was settled under 10th settlement (from 2012 to 2017),” said C.H. Venkatachalam, general secretary, All India Bank Employees Association.

A SPECIAL PUBLICATION FROM THE HINDU GROUP

A feast of articles and pictures on the just concluded, once-in-40-years, 48-day exposition of Athi Varadar and the fascinating history of Varadaraja Swamy Temple in Kanchipuram.

- Complete view of the 48-day exposition
- Athi Varadar with various alankarams
- Athi Varadar-Utsavar meeting
- Special poojas for Athi Varadar before re-immersion
- Articles on the multi-faceted temple history
- Collector's edition to be treasured for the next 40 years



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THE AWAKENING
Athi Varadar 2019

Beyond the call of duty

Artist Shelly Jyoti's exhibition using Ajrakh on Khadi, is back in the city, and includes new work that propagates the idea of using textile as a medium to revive an interest in the symbols of nationalism

MADHUR TANKHA

Fish swim, sometimes in the same direction, and sometimes in opposite directions, across naturally-dyed khadi cloth, intricate borders 'containing' them to the fabric. "I was reading an article which said when a trillion of fish collaborate, they displace water to create oceanic currents. So here I am, examining the idea of collectiveness that can bring about a social change," says Shelly Jyoti, an artist whose work is centred on Indian historical iconographic elements. The fish appear as shoals, never as a single motif.

To mark the 150 birth anniversary of Mahatma Gandhi, the artist contemporises Bapu's philosophy of a collectivist society. *Bound by Duty: An Idea of Swaraj and Collectiveness*, is inspired by Mahatma Gandhi's anti-imperialist work



Hind Swaraj. The 32 art scrolls – in sizes as diverse as 36 feet long to 80 feet long – work at many levels. The use of khadi has a direct connect with the practice of spinning our own yarn, pertinent at a time when the world is reconsidering its use of mass-produced articles of cloth-

Strength in numbers Shelly Jyoti; her Ajrakh works on khadi that are on display at the ongoing exhibition ■ SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT

ing. The Ajrakh print points to the revival of niche indigenous crafts, while the use of fish is symbolic of fertility and abundance (though perhaps the artist did not mean for it to be seen this way). It indicates that the time is right for Indian craft (often the poor cousin of our art) to be seen in a new light.

But Shelly hopes that it will not be confined to the gallery, but will go out and mingle amongst us. She seeks to make it meaningful for an urban audience, so we introspect and connect with rural populations that often feel isolated: weavers, printers, artisans, and all those who eke out a livelihood using their hands. "I am talking about sup-



porting 70% of our rural population," she says, adding that it's especially important that we recognise 'hand work' at a time when technology has taken over.

Travelling from Gurugram to Bhuj to work with Junaid Ismail Khatri, a tenth generation Ajrakh craftsman, she created art scrolls at Khatri's studio. "I conceptualise, visualise, design and execute both in form and colour. Junaid gives his technical support to the Ajrakh process,"

says Shelly, who got a Masters degree in English from Punjab University, before training in designing and clothing technology at NIFT, in Delhi in 1995. "I created my first artworks experiencing and learning about the magical reverse block printing technique with natural colours, in 2008. It has remained one of my primary means of artistic expression."

The process of production is now set: "Before I leave for

Bhuj, all my artworks are ready on big imperial sheets with full details of blocks in my art sketches." Each artwork has a story to tell. The discerning have to make out the meaning from geometric patterns, painstakingly created inside contours of fish. By bringing together khadi, Ajrakh and skill of craftspeople, she gives her own interpretation in a visual form

At the Kamladevi Complex in IIC, she points to the contours of each fish as they 'glide' across the wall. Each geometric line balances the flow. Everyone should experience self control and have a sense of duty, says Shelly, who follows the work of academics and thinkers like Tri-dip Surhud and Makarand Paranjape.

"Mahatma Gandhi's *Hind Swaraj* was a critique of modernity. Gandhi was also working on an evolved, ethical sense for creating an alternative perspective of a better world. My own story of creating a better, moral, and peaceful society, has been going on for 10 years. Naturally, Gandhi becomes my focus," she says, adding that her shows are notions of patriotism.

She speaks of her experience with children, who cannot tell the exact date of Independence: "They reply that it is either 15 August or 26 January. On these days, they listen to patriotic songs, wear new clothes." With this exhibition and others like it, "I am telling 30 crore urban Indians, 'How about buying five meters of handspun, handwoven cloth once a year?'" It's Gandhi's message in a nutshell.

She has been supported by the Khadi and Village Industries Commission that gave her the cloth, and by Good Earth. While KVIC supplied the artist fabric, Good Earth is part sponsor of this travelling exhibition.

At the India International Centre, New Delhi, on until September 27th; in Mumbai at the Jehangir Art Gallery, Mumbai, from November 27-December 4

POP-UP

Reed seed

For three days, an indie-brand seeks to show you how the many fibres and reeds of India can be used at home



In India, there are close to 14-15 natural fibres that can be used to design functional, everyday objects. And until about a year and a half ago, this was a whole new world of information for Deepika Vijh, a 45-year-old, former media professional.

Vijh was looking for a change in career at the time. A chance conversation with a friend working with women artisans in Bengal, led her to starting Dharini, a platform to promote eco-conscious home-wear, sourced from and designed in different parts of India.

"For about two years, I just spent time understanding fibres," Vijh recalls as she laments how in India, the art and design community don't seem to recognise and utilise the potential of the many fibres found in the country.

"Countries like Philippines and Indonesia are doing so much with their natural fibres, but we only find the one-off stall in Kisan Haat or Dilli Haat, and even those designs are stale a lot of the times," she says.

With this in mind, Vijh – she spends time on design innovation with artisans across Bengal, Tamil Nadu, Assam and Orissa – is bringing Dharini's products for an exhibition at the Aga Khan Hall. This is her third such exhibition, after one in August last year, and another in January this year.

Currently, Dharini uses nine types of reeds and fibres: bamboo, kauna grass, palm leaf, rattan, sabai grass, screw pine, sital pati, water hyacinth, and madhur kathi. Besides products like bread baskets, pen stands, file holders, and napkin rings, Dharini also lists floor cushions, whose internal stuffing too is kept to hay and fibre only.

"The feel of natural fibre really takes us back to the earth, back to nature," Vijh says, adding that it's "high time" we surrounded ourselves with more natural material in lieu of plastic or synthetic.

If it is maintenance that's the concern with natural products – wood tends to expand and contract with heat, and dampness in the air can affect the longevity and shape of cane-made things – Vijh says the effort required is small. "If the monsoon affects the products, we tell people to brush it gently, and wipe with a soft cloth. Then, dry them out in the sun. But some material, like the kauna grass, is washable," she says. They're all water reeds, however, and require a good amount of sun to dry out.

With the upcoming exhibition, Vijh is introducing yoga mats, and *chatais* to Dharini's collection. She hopes to also expand into light fittings, while also looking at more fibres like hemp soon.

At The Aga Khan Hall, 6, Bhagwan Das Road, 18th to 20th of September; online at Dharini.co.in

VANGMAYI PARAKALA

PRODUCT

Light up



Sanjyt Singh, a Delhi-based interior designer, has recently launched a series of light fixtures, which can be customised in the shape of letters of the alphabet, and numerals. These can be taken as a signage or an art installation, to embellish the interiors of any space – residences, offices, showrooms, exhibitions, gyms, and restaurants.

For more, contact 9999975099; or visit their studio at F-327/1 Lado Sarai; upwards of ₹75,000

Contact us at delhimetro@thehindu.co.in



FOOD REVIEW

AS GOOD AS IT GETS

SUNALINI MATHEW

Soy Soi proclaims loudly that it is an "Asian Eatstreet" so we don't get ideas about going out to a "Chinese restaurant." It helps that the staff (currently a few from the Chennai original) are in Delhi, talking with excitement about how the menu was based on their three-week trip to Thailand, Malaysia, Indonesia,



Soy Soi comes to Gurugram, from Chennai, and takes us on a journey of the streets of South-East Asia

Singapore and Vietnam (there's also Burmese and Japanese food).

The vibe: The interiors are non-interfering: dark grey with hints of colour and minimal 'decor' by way of dragonflies across a wall. This is a place to eat not look at light fixtures (though the Balinese-inspired ones are pretty).

Do try: Almost everything, because you'd want to come back and

try more items from the menu, from the Soto Ayam Madura, an Indonesian clear soup with its delicate flavours; and the Edamame Truffled Dumpling (with waterchestnuts), a must-do even if you're not veg; to the Sate Ayam Madura (the satay comes with a Chilli Sambal Dip we asked to be left on the table) and the Char Kuay Teow, its dense, slightly-charred



flavour to be savoured slowly. Portions and fillings (whether of the baos or the sushi) are generous, and the food juicy, oozing flavour.

Generous portions (Clockwise from left) Burmese Salad Sampler, Aburi Salmon Nigiri, Jasmine Prawns, California Maki ■ SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT



Skip: The mocktails, which dilute the flavour of the food. The Sheng Jian Bao, first fried and then steamed, which is slightly doughy. I'd skip the sushi, because we're accustomed to better in Delhi.

Go with: There are few places that have something for everyone, and this is one. I'd go with a health-food nut and eat the Phak Boong Fai Daeng (wok-tossed morning glory with yellow bean sauce, garlic, and chilli), or for a meal with family and order the Ikan Goreng Nyat Nyat (deep-fried sea bass in a spicy coconut-milk gravy).

Space bar: 1,800 square feet (approximately), 82 covers

How much? ₹2,000 for two (they're awaiting the liquor license)

Reach: By car, because Ardee Mall, in Gururam's Sector 52, is not on the Metro line

5 EVENTS WORTH YOUR WHILE



LECTURE

On Civilization

Anvita Abbi, Adjunct Professor of Linguistics in Simon Fraser University, Canada, will deliver a lecture titled 'Glimpses of a Pre-Neolithic Civilisation: The Great Andamanese'. The speaker will also present original sound recordings of songs rendered by native speakers of the dying language.

VENUE: INTACH, 71, Lodhi Estate
TIME: 4:30 p.m.



EXHIBITION

Paintings and sculptures

'Divine Intervention' showcases contemporary depictions of Lord Krishna in various avatars, along with sculptures and artworks of various other deities. There are 50 paintings and sculptures; and the artworks are by artists G. Subramanian and P. Gnana. There are over 50 pieces of work on display.

VENUE: Art Spice Gallery, The Metropolitan Hotel
TIME: 9 a.m. - 6 pm

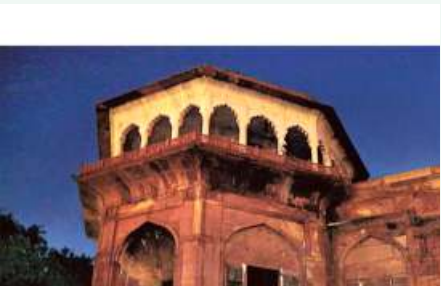


F&B

Oktoberfest

The Irish House has organised Oktoberfest, a 10-day food festival which will showcase a range of beers and German delicacies. On until 22nd September, this festival will have deals on beer, and a German-inspired food menu. The dishes on offer include Pretzel Baskets, Cheesy Spätzle, Irish Flammkuchen, and more.

VENUE: The Irish House, Nehru Place & Noida
TIME: 12 noon - 1 a.m.



ART

Paintings

It Was Never Concrete is a solo show of paintings by artist Ayesha Singh. Curated by Anushka Rajendran, this series explores how the specific social, political, and historical context of Delhi manifests in its architecture. Ayesha's works also reveal the power structures embedded in the cityscape.

VENUE: Shrine Empire, D 395, Defence Colony
TIME: 11 a.m. - 6 p.m.



FOOD

Chinese special

Shang Palace has organised a week-long Kunming street food festival. Kunming, the capital city of Yunnan is considered a gourmet's paradise. The menu offers dishes made with recipes from Kunming street. This includes Spicy Stewed Chicken and Minced Pork Pancakes, among others.

VENUE: Shangri-La's - Eros Hotel, Ashoka Road
TIME: 12:30-2:45 p.m. and 7-11:45 p.m.

OMKAR SHENDGE

Before you set off for a drive, it is ideal to find the right seating position when you get behind the wheel. Finding the right driving position isn't just important from the point of view of comfort, but also from the perspective of safety. Being seated correctly behind the wheel gives you better visibility, helps your limbs react faster to dangerous situations, and in most cases, also prevents back pain.

Here are some points that you should keep in mind when adjusting the seat.



Backrest angle

The angle of your backrest is one of the most basic adjustments and is highly dependent on your personal preference. The ideal angle of recline is somewhere between 100-110 degrees (this zone puts less pressure on your back). An upright angle can cause discomfort early into the drive, while a more laid-back recline angle can hamper your visibility while driving.

Mirrors

Adjust the rear-view mirrors once you've set your correct driving position. Adjust them for optimal rear visibility. Keep the side of the car slightly visible in the outside rear-view mirrors, as a reference point.



Tips to finding your ideal driving position

This is not just important from the point of view of comfort, but also from the perspective of safety



Reach the pedals

To begin, bring the seat forward and check if you can depress the pedals fully. Then go back a notch at a time until you can just about depress the pedals fully without stretching your leg. For your arms, keep them stretched over the wheel; the ideal position will be to have your wrist resting at the top of the wheel. This way, you have better control and your elbows are not too close to your body while turning.

Seat height

From the lowermost position, start increasing the height until your hips are either at the same height as your knees, or slightly lower. At this point, check if you can still operate the pedals with ease. Your knees should be slightly bent, as having them straight while driving isn't safe in case of a crash. See that you have a good view of the road ahead. If you feel that you need to be even higher, go up one notch and check your pedal position again.



Seat-base angle

In most modern cars, the front of the seat base is slightly higher than the rear. This raises your thighs slightly and pushes you further into the seat, ensuring a more comfortable seating position. Some cars also offer the option of adjusting its angle of tilt. Place the seat base at a comfortable angle that makes pedal operation easy without stressing the thigh muscles.

Headrest

This feature is for safety and not comfort – and its full-form is 'head restraint'. While most cars just offer height adjustment for the restraint, some cars also offer to-and-fro adjustment. When adjusting the headrest's height, make sure that its centre is aligned at eye-level when looking straight forward. Also, ideally, the distance between the back of your head and the headrest should be minimal. The headrest prevents whiplash injuries, in the event of your car getting rear-ended.



Steering wheel

Some cars have a steering wheel that adjusts for rake and reach. This offers drivers a better shot at finding their ideal driving position. When adjusting the steering rake (up and down movement) choose a position that allows you to view the instrument cluster without being obstructed by the wheel. Avoid placing the steering too low, as it may interfere with your knees during sharp turns, while placing it too high will cause stress on your shoulders. While comfortably seated, adjust the reach so as to place your wrists on the top of the steering wheel with ease.



Q AND A WITH HORMAZD



Tread talk

Kanti, Dehradun: My 2019 Hyundai Santro is running on stock size tyres 155/70 R13 with 4J rim. Is it advisable to choose the 155/80 R13 or should I stick to stock?

■ The 155/80-R13 would be a bit too large for the Santro and might foul with the suspension. You could upsize to the 165/70-R13 as a safer choice.

Pick the F-Pace

Saujanya, Gurugram: I have a 2014 BMW 320d but want to now switch to a petrol engine. I have shortlisted the BMW X3 and the Jaguar F-Pace petrol. Which one would you recommend?

■ Both cars are superb to drive, but it's the F-Pace we would lean towards, because it's slightly bigger than the X3 and offers that crucial extra space in the backseat, making it the better all-rounder. Another area where the F-Pace edges out the X3 is in terms of ride quality. The Jag feels more pliant and cushions shocks better.

The right bike

Rajesh Pandian, via email: I've been riding an RE Thunderbird 350. I want to upgrade. I'd like a fully-faired bike and have my eyes on the Kawasaki Ninja 650 and the Honda CBR650R. Which bike should I go for?

■ The Honda costs ₹1.9 lakh more than the Kawasaki, but it also offers much more and is the bike we recommend. The CBR has the more desirable four-cylinder engine and it is considerably more powerful as well. It also offers the security of traction control. Honda's big bike after-sales costs are surprisingly affordable and are much lower than what Kawasaki will charge you. While the CBR looks sportier, and also has the more committed riding position, it's not as aggressive as a full-on supersport motorcycle. Price difference aside, the riding position is probably the only thing that might put you off the Honda, so we recommend you take a test ride to decide.

Hormazd Sorabjee is the Editor of *Autocar India*. Mail your feedback and queries to roadshow@thehindu.co.in

POOCH CAFE



PEANUTS



HAGAR THE HORRIBLE



CALVIN AND HOBBS



TIGER



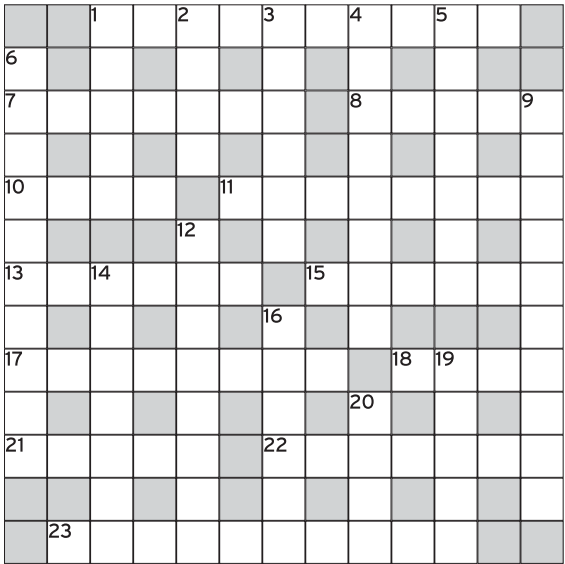
WUMO



PEARLS BEFORE SWINE



THE GUARDIAN QUICK CROSSWORD-13177



- Across
- 1 Vehicle carrying a ladder and hoses (4,6)
 - 7 Filmed scene that ends on the cutting-room floor (7)
 - 8 Old church tax (5)
 - 10 Dip in liquid (4)
 - 11 In a careless manner (8)
 - 13 Attacker (6)
 - 15 Convenient (6)
 - 17 Thawed (8)
 - 18 Begin to move (4)
 - 21 Comedy of the absurd? (5)
 - 22 Three-pronged spear (7)
 - 23 Where glass containers can be recycled (6,4)
- Down
- 1 Kind of mattress (5)
 - 2 Horse with reddish-

- brown coat (4)
- 3 Uniformly (6)
- 4 Support for a hinged barrier (8)
- 5 Absolutely! (3,4)
- 6 Cosmetic pad (6,4)
- 9 Thrill (10)
- 12 Evocative (8)
- 14 Great fire (7)
- 16 Grinding tool (6)
- 19 Make minor adjustments (5)
- 20 Oral examination (4)

Solution will appear in *The Hindu* dated September 19, 2019.

Solution No. 13176



India's chance to settle scores with SA

The home team's bowling and the visitor's batting will look to cash in on each other's inexperience

SA IN INDIA

RAKESH RAO MOHALI
If there is a change of mind-set in India's approach to T20 cricket, it could well come across in Wednesday's clash against South Africa.
For long, India has found it tough to justify its rather conventional approach to batting in the first 10-12 overs, keeping wickets intact before going for broke at the back-end.
Since Virat Kohli categorically stated that the batting depth is being considered in any combination, it obviously allows the top-order to play with more freedom.

Change in approach?
The other day at Dharamshala, Kohli emphasised, "If all teams across the world are batting till No. 9, 10, why can't we?" That, in effect, compels the specialist bowlers to spend more time at the 'nets' with the bat in their hands!
At the same time, it could help the international T20 careers of Ravindra Jadeja and Krunal Pandya, who have better batting credentials than Kuldeep Yadav and Yuzvendra Chahal.
Given the inexperience of this visiting team when it comes to playing on Indian pitches, the spinners could prove a handful, especially the variety offered by leggie Rahul Chahar.
With this assumption, In-



Strong point: Kohli's men will bank on their batting might to surmount South Africa's challenge. ■ AKHILESH KUMAR

dia has the luxury of going in with six bowling options, including three spinners.
Pacers Khaleel Ahmed, Navdeep Saini and Hardik Pandya, along with spinners Krunal or Jadeja, Washington Sundar and Rahul enhance India's wicket-taking abilities.
In fact, South Africa's wicketkeeper-captain Quinton de Kock should know Rahul's worth since they turn up for Mumbai Indians.
In the batting department, Rohit Sharma, Shikhar Dhawan, Kohli, Shreyas Iyer and

Rishabh Pant appear a certainty, with Hardik to follow. What adds to the interest is South Africa's preparedness to test the Indian batting might. In the squad of 14, South Africa has nine bowling options!
Much like India, South Africa is likely to go in with five specialist batsmen, three all-rounders and the specialist bowlers.
Looking at the top-order, India will look to cash in on the collective inexperience of Reeza Hendricks, Temba Bavuma and Rassie van der

Dussen. Similarly, the Proteas batsmen will hope to take advantage of the lack of experience in the Indian bowling ranks.
With the sun shining brightly, action is sure to begin in what is effectively a two-match series.
In 2015, when South Africa last played a three-match T20 series, one game was rained off and India lost the other two.
Kohli and coach Ravi Shastri, with one eye on statistics, will be eager to return the favour this time around.

The teams (from): India: Virat Kohli (Capt.), Rohit Sharma, Shikhar Dhawan, K.L. Rahul, Shreyas Iyer, Manish Pandey, Hardik Pandya, Rishabh Pant, Krunal Pandya, Washington Sundar, Ravindra Jadeja, Deepak Chahar, Rahul Chahar, Khaleel Ahmed and Navdeep Saini.
South Africa: Quinton de Kock (Capt.), Rassie van der Dussen, Temba Bavuma, Reeza Hendricks, David Miller, George Linde, Andile Phehlukwayo, Dwaine Pretorius, Junior Dala, Bjorn Fortuin, Beuran Hendricks, Anrich Nortje, Kagiso Rabada and Tabraiz Shamsi.
Match starts at 7 p.m.

Team wants fearless, not careless cricket: Rathour

Captaincy is a new stepping stone in my career: de Kock

RAKESH RAO MOHALI
It doesn't require a brilliant cricketing brain to separate 'fearless' from 'careless' when batting. But some youngsters of the present Indian team need the difference to be spelt out.
On Tuesday, India's newly appointed batting coach Vikram Rathour put it in as many words. "All the young players need to understand that there is a fine line between fearless cricket and careless cricket."
"What the team management is asking from them is fearless cricket, having clear a gameplan and playing with intent. At the same time, you can't be careless."



Vikram Rathour. ■ AKHILESH KUMAR

We want him [Pant] to play all his shots. That is what makes him special. He is an impact player, but at the same time you can't be careless

—VIKRAM RATHOUR



Quinton de Kock. ■ AKHILESH KUMAR

Leading into the World Cup, to lose a game in different conditions, is not ideal, but that's what it is. It is a bit negative

—DE KOCK

Phenomenal player
Rishabh Pant is the obvious reference point. And the articulate Rathour, also a former National selector, was categorical.
"As far as Rishabh is concerned, he is a phenomenal player. He just needs to sort out his gameplan, needs to bring in a little bit of discipline into his game."
"We want him to play all his shots. That is what makes him special. He is an impact player, but at the same time you can't be careless."
Talking about the present combination, in the background of skipper Virat Kohli's emphasis on the team

batting deep, Rathour said, "We are fortunate to have so many all-rounders in this team."
"In the past, we did not take T20s seriously but now we are preparing for the T20 World Cup. By batting deep, we can go harder in the beginning and we will be trying out different things in this series and see what works for us."
Not ideal
South Africa skipper Quinton de Kock regretted the rained out match in Dharam-

shala. "We would like to have played three games against India."
"Leading into the World Cup, to lose a game in different conditions, is not ideal, but that's what it is. It is a bit negative."
When asked about how he was looking to his role as a captain in this series, the opener and wicketkeeper said, "Not too concerned, to be honest. It is a new stepping stone in my career, gives me extra responsibility. Not sure if it would affect me negatively or positively."

Gill and Karun in cruise mode

Shepherd India-A to 233 for three on the opening day

SA-A IN INDIA

ASHWIN ACHAL MYSURU
Fluent knocks from Shubman Gill (92, 137b, 12x4, 1x6) and Karun Nair (78 batting, 167b, 10x4) took India-A to 233 for three on the first day of its second 'Test' against South Africa-A at the SDNR Wadiyar Stadium here on Tuesday.
The duo came together with India-A in a spot of bother at 31 for two, and put on 135 to steer their side to safety.
They patiently played out the opening bowlers Vernon Philander and Lungi Ngidi, both of whom extracted movement in the morning session. When the sun came out and the pitch dried up, Gill and Karun opened out.
Gill, who has been included in the Test squad to face South Africa, was in fine touch. He was particularly strong off the front foot, driving the fast bowlers straight down the ground with aplomb.
One stroke off Philander stood out for its audacity – the youngster simply flicking his wrist to dispatch an over-pitched delivery from outside off to the long-on fence.
He was on course to reach a fifth First Class century, un-



On the go: Shubman Gill belted 12 boundaries and a six but was unlucky to miss out on a century by eight runs. ■ G.P. SAMPATH KUMAR

til a half-hearted cut went straight to gully.
Excited
Gill earned a reprieve on zero when he edged Philander between third slip and gully. Gill, who made 90 in the previous match, is looking forward to joining the Test side. "I'm very excited. Being picked for the Test team is a big deal for every cricketer," he said.
Karun, meanwhile, built on the great form he showed in the Duleep Trophy. He was aggressive after lunch, hitting speedster Lutho Si-

pamla for three boundaries in an over. When the spinners Dane Piedt and Senuran Muthusamy came on, Karun disrupted their rhythm by using the sweep shot regularly.
Wriddhiman Saha who, like Gill, is part of the Test squad, gave Karun company and remained unbeaten on 36.
Abhimanyu Easwaran (5) and Priyank Panchal (6) failed to get going.
While Abhimanyu received a questionable leg-before decision, Priyank nicked an outswinger from

fast bowler Wiaan Mulder to first slip.
The scores:
India-A – 1st innings: Abhimanyu Easwaran lbw b Ngidi 5, Shubman Gill c Muthusamy b Sipamla 92, Priyank Panchal c de Bruyn b Mulder 6, Karun Nair (batting) 78, Wriddhiman Saha (batting) 36; Extras (nb-2, b-8, lb-6): 16; Total (for three wickets in 74 overs): 233.
Fall of wickets: 1-10, 2-31, 3-166.
South Africa-A bowling: Philander 12-2-21-0, Ngidi 13-1-41-1, Mulder 13-7-19-1, Sipamla 15-2-54-1, Piedt 11-0-45-0, Muthusamy 10-0-39-0.
Toss: South Africa-A.

‘Want to keep the rhythm going’

Ngidi says he has done a lot to recover from injury

ASHWIN ACHAL MYSURU
Midway through South Africa's stuttering ICC ODI World Cup campaign, fast bowler Lungi Ngidi was ruled out due to a hamstring injury. He could only watch from the sidelines as his side struggled in the mega event, finishing with just three wins in nine matches.
The strapping pacer is now back in action, turning out for the touring South Africa-A here. In the first 'Test' against India-A – his first competitive match since the injury lay-off – Ngidi bowled well to pick up five wickets.
The 23-year-old is keen to get into the groove before he joins the senior Test team to take on India.
"The hamstring injury was caused maybe because I was trying to bowl too fast. Missing the latter half of the World Cup was disappointing, but injuries are a part of life."



Lettin' it rip! South African pacer Ngidi could be a handful for the Indian batsmen in the Test series ■ G.P. SAMPATH KUMAR

Feeling fit
I went straight to my recovery routine, and now I'm feeling very fit. I've done a lot of training to recover from the injury. I'm happy with the way I'm bowling, and I want to keep the rhythm going," Ngidi said here on Tuesday.
Ngidi can count on fellow

"My father was my biggest supporter; that spot has been taken by my mum now."
Dad is watching
"His demise was unfortunate and sudden. He wanted to see me play for South Africa and in the IPL – I'm happy that he got to see both. Life, death... it happens. I know he's watching me from above, so I want to make him proud," Ngidi said.

Dinesh Mongia calls it a day

VIJAY LOKAPALLY NEW DELHI
Former India all-rounder Dinesh Mongia, member of the Indian team which finished runner-up in the 2003 World Cup, announced his retirement from all forms of game on Tuesday. Mongia's final appearance came in 2007 for Punjab before he joined the Indian Cricket League (ICL) and was subsequently banned by the BCCI.
The punishment for playing the ICL left Mongia without any official connection with the game and he was lost to cricket. Most players banned by the Board for their association with the ICL were granted amnesty but Mongia remained the lone cricketer who was kept out of the official circuit.
"Those were hard days," recalled Mongia who took up coaching assignments to stay in touch with the game. Last season, he was made a State

selector by the Punjab Cricket Association (PCA).
It was considered "amnesty" by Mongia, who wants to take up coaching assignments now.
From his under-19 debut for Punjab in October 1995, Mongia made rapid progress to earn a First Class debut in February 1996.

Six years of consistent scoring pushed him into the Indian team for a debut against Australia in 2001 at Pune. He figured in 57 ODIs but never played a Test.
He played in 121 First Class matches and hit 21 centuries. Mongia also turned out for Lancashire and Leicester-shire.



End of the innings: Mongia's final appearance came in 2007 for Punjab before he joined the ICL and was subsequently banned by the BCCI. ■ P. V. SIVAKUMAR

Kaushik and Sanjeet score upset wins

Panghal, Kavinder also make the quarterfinals to seal a wonderful day for India

WORLD BOXING

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA EKATERINBURG (RUSSIA)
The Indian juggernaut rolled on as four pugilists, including Asian champion Amit Panghal (52kg), advanced to the quarterfinals in the World men's boxing championships here on Tuesday.
Asian Games gold-medallist and second seed Panghal was joined by Asian silver-winner and fifth seed Kavinder Singh Bisht (57kg) and the debutant duo of Commonwealth Games silver-winner Manish Kaushik (63kg) and Sanjeet (91kg).
Panghal defeated Turkey's Batuhan Citfci, while Kaushik stunned fourth-seeded Mongolian Chinzorig Baatarsukh, who is an Asian

Games silver-medallist and also a two-time medal-winner at the Asian Championships. Both the Indians claimed 5-0 victories.



Proving his mettle: Panghal compensated for the height disparity by tackling Citfci with aplomb. ■ SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT

Sanjeet (91kg) then caused another massive upset by defeating second-seeded Uzbek Sanjar Tursunov 4-1. Tursunov is a bronze-medal-

list from the previous World Championship besides being an Asian silver-winner.
In the evening session, Bisht defeated Finland's Arslan Khataev 3-2 to claim a second successive quarterfinal spot at the marquee tournament.
For the Prime Minister
Panghal, who is chasing a medal in his second World Championship after a quarterfinal finish in 2017, dedicated his win to the Prime Minister.
"It was a good bout as I fought against an experienced boxer. I will be ready with my strategy for Paalam tomorrow."
"I dedicate this win to Prime Minister Narendra Modi, who is celebrating his 69th birthday today," Panghal said after the bout.

Keeping a close tab
While he did not reveal further details, it is learnt from highly reliable sources that the ACU is keeping a close tab on a few players – who have also played at the international level.
There were allegations of malpractices in the KPL last year too, and the ACU had probed a few people. However, the investigation is still believed to be ongoing.
Ajit agreed that the bookies usually take such an approach while trying to influence players.
"However, it is a positive sign that the players are coming forward and reporting any suspicious activities. We are looking into all the aspects," he said.



Ajit Singh. ■ COURTESY: BCCI

Stokes slams newspaper for digging into his family history

This is the lowest form of journalism & focused only on chasing sales, says England star

IANS LONDON
England allrounder Ben Stokes, on Tuesday, lambasted an English daily for publishing details about his personal life and family, terming the act as “utterly disgusting” and the “lowest form of journalism”.
Stokes said the newspaper article deals with “deeply personal and traumatic events” that affected his New Zealand-based family more than 30 years ago, according to a BBC report.
The Sun told the BBC it had received the co-operation of a family member.
In a statement on Twitter, Stokes alleged the report had “serious inaccuracies which has compounded the damage caused”.

Grave consequences
“The decision to publish these details has grave and lifelong consequences for my mum in particular,” he said.
The Durham and England allrounder added, “To use my name as an excuse to shatter the privacy and private lives of – in particular – my parents is utterly disgusting.
“It is hard to find words that adequately describe such low and despicable behaviour, disguised as journalism. I cannot conceive of anything more immoral, heartless or contemptuous to the feelings and circumstances of my family.”
Stokes was England’s World Cup hero and also scored an incredible 135 not



Bolt from the blue: According to Ben Stokes, the article published in *The Sun* deals with “deeply personal and traumatic events” that affected his New Zealand-based family more than 30 years ago. ■ REUTERS

out in the third Ashes Test against Australia at Headingley last month.
Invasion of rights
He added, “I am aware that my public profile brings with it consequences for me that I accept entirely. But I will not allow my public profile to be used as an excuse to invade the rights of my parents, my wife, my children or other family members. They are entitled to a private life of their own.
“For more than three decades, my family has worked hard to deal with the private trauma inevitably associated with these events and has taken great care to keep private what were deeply personal

It is hard to find words that adequately describe such low and despicable behaviour, disguised as journalism. I cannot conceive of anything more immoral, heartless or contemptuous to the feelings and circumstances of my family
and traumatic events.
“On Saturday, *The Sun* sent a ‘reporter’ to my parents’ home in New Zealand to question them, out of the blue, on this incredibly upsetting topic.
“If that wasn’t bad enough, *The Sun* thinks it is acceptable to sensationalise our personal tragedy for their front page.
“This is the lowest form of journalism, focused only on chasing sales with absolutely no regard for the devastation caused to lives as a consequence. It is totally out of order.”
A spokesperson for *The Sun* was quoted as saying by BBC, “*The Sun* has the utmost sympathy for Ben Stokes and his mother but it is only right to point out the story was told with the co-operation of a family member who supplied details, provided photographs and posed for pictures. The tragedy is also a matter of public record and was the subject of extensive front page publicity in New Zealand at the time.”

Borussia Dortmund enters India

To be involved in grassroots programme with World1 Sports

S. DIPAK RAGAV CHENNAI
German club Borussia Dortmund on Tuesday became the latest European club to enter India to develop youth football and also help train Indian coaches after World1 Sports, a sports consulting firm, announced the club as its official grassroots partner in the country.
Speaking at the event, Suresh Letchmanan, Dortmund’s managing director of the Asia-Pacific region, said, “We are honoured to be here in India and forge this relationship. We have always been keen believers in the development of youth football and are hoping we can guide and find a way to develop youth football in India. At the same time, we also want to use this opportunity to win more Black and Yellow hearts and build the BVB brand further in India.
“The objective is to see how we can further train



Looking ahead: Benjamin Galant, Dortmund’s UEFA B coach, Max-Jannis Foerster, club representative, Dortmund’s Asia-Pacific MD Suresh Letchmanan, Varun Tripuraneni and Varun Achreja, co-founders World1 Sports, and Vikram Rajkumar, COO World1 Sports, at the launch. ■ SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT

kids and coaches in India in the BVB way, without any short-cuts. We hope we can eventually find players that could live their dreams to play in the local league here in India. That’s the first step and hopefully then take the bigger step of playing in Asia and in Europe in the possible

future,” he added.
Tie up?
On the possibility of a tie up with a club in India, Letchmanan said: “If there is such an opportunity, why not? But I think we have to take baby steps first. This is not a commercial deal. It’s about find-

ing the best talent and helping them participate at the highest platform in Europe.”
In partnership with Eight Goals One Foundation (8one), W1 Sports has been running a grassroots initiative, the Young Legends’ League (YLL) in Manipur and Mizoram over the last two and three years respectively. The programme targets children between the age of five and 12 across and enrolls them in five months of weekly matches.
Seven players from the project have been awarded 100% scholarships in top residential football academies across India, including ISL champion Bengaluru FC.
In Tamil Nadu, World1 Sports has tied up with Vellammal institutions and through its 46 schools aims to reach over 1,50,000 students. The Dortmund officials will visit the school on Wednesday to conduct a session.

Rap on the knuckles not good enough – Pant owes it to himself

Three elements go into the making of an international sportsman — talent, practice and luck



BETWEEN WICKETS
SURESH MENON

Talent is either the most underrated quality in a player or the most overrated depending on which school of thought appeals to you. The Ericsson-Gladwell-Syed-Golvin school believes (and I am simplifying here) that practice is the more important; traditionalists took the primacy of talent so much for granted that they didn’t bother to write books about it.
Anders Ericsson is a psychologist and professor at the Florida State University who spoke of “deliberate practice”, a concept which Malcolm Gladwell misinterpreted while writing about his “ten thousand hours” that led to top level success. Matthew Syed, English table tennis international and journalist, preferred the term “purposeful practice” while Geoff

Glovin unambiguously named his book *Talent is Overrated*.
Three elements go into the making of an international sportsman, and you need all of them, even if the proportions differ. Talent, practice and luck. Talented players who don’t work hard are no different from the untalented who practice till the cows come home but can’t get anywhere.
Next big thing
Every generation produces players who promise to become “the next big thing” but either fade out or cede the ground. A good example is Tamil Nadu’s Rangachari Madhavan. In the mid-80s he was seen as the coming man. Many chose him as one of the players of the following decade.
Playing for India Under-25 against the Englishmen, he made a century and the visitors were beaten by an innings.
The other centurion in the match, Mohammad Azharuddin, went on to play 99 Tests and lead India in three World Cups.
Nine of that team played for the country. Madhavan was left-hand-

ed, elegant, and could bowl too, but fell short in one of the three areas, certainly not in talent. Perhaps it was luck.
Kapil Dev, who had made his debut a few years earlier, spoke highly of his friend Yograj Singh with whom he was expected to share the new ball for a generation. It didn’t happen, Yograj finishing with just one Test.
Kapil Dev often said that Yograj was the more talented bowler, but he lacked the work ethic. To paraphrase the golfing great Jack Nicklaus, “it is a lack of being able to repeat good plays consistently that frustrates most players. And the only answer to that is practice.”
So where is Rishabh Pant going wrong? He is talented. He has the wicketkeeper’s job. He is still a few days from his 22nd birthday. He has Test match centuries in England and Australia, yet his white ball cricket, at which he was expected to be a natural, is disappointing.
His coach Ravi Shastri has promised that the next time he shows poor judgement in choosing the ball to hit, or the stroke to play, he will get a “rap on the knuckles.”

This is too mild. There is nothing worse in sport than wasted talent. Shastri himself is more aware of this than most. He played 80 Tests, going from a promising left arm spinner on his debut to a gutsy opener with centuries against the fastest bowlers of his time. He didn’t throw anything away.
The three elements we spoke of earlier can be subdivided further. Talent also includes the ability to judge, to adjust, to be match-aware, to know what not to do; hard work can also be about practising restraint.
Luck is already on Pant’s side. He is not the best wicketkeeper in the country, but force of circumstances catapulted him to where he is. He cannot afford to throw it all away.
Surrender
I once asked Bishan Bedi why he of all the left arm spinners of his time, many of international class, held down an India spot for so long. His spontaneous response was, “I was lucky”. That is gratitude. Then he said, “I surrendered myself to my craft.” It is a beautiful thought; Pant must surrender himself to his craft.

He can also learn from his own captain. A decade ago, Virat Kohli was seen as “the next best thing” who was on the verge of throwing it all away. Today he is the most focused of players, the finest all round batsman in the world. Talent existed. Practice honed it. And increasingly, the role of luck was reduced.
There is too the example of Pant’s fast-bowling team-mates. I think one reason why India has such a fine crop is not just that they have produced more bowlers, but less talent has been wasted compared to earlier times.
At any given time, only 15 or 18 players have the ability, the form and the potential to be in the national squad. This, from a pool of around 700 or so first class cricketers available. A generation of middle order batsmen missed out in the Sachin Tendulkar era. Likewise spinners in the Bedi era. Sport is like that.
The odds are not always in favour of the talented. The harder I work, the luckier I get, said the golfer Arnold Palmer. Pant can learn from that.

Will rising star Felix upstage Ronaldo?

Guardiola chases Champions League vindication

AGENCE FRANCE-PRESSE MADRID
Young gun Joao Felix will lead the charge on Wednesday as his Atletico Madrid seeks revenge on Juventus and its old enemy Cristiano Ronaldo in a potentially fiery Champions League opener.
Felix, touted as heir to Ronaldo’s throne, will make his debut in Europe’s top competition when the Portuguese pair meet at the Wanda Metropolitan, with the La Liga outfit keen to shoot down the five-time Ballon d’Or winner.
Juventus dumped Atletico out of the competition last year as Ronaldo scored a hat-trick that overturned a 2-0 first-leg deficit.
Now Felix is charged with bringing the old master down a peg or two.
The 19-year-old has been hailed as the new ‘CR7’ after his breakout season at Benfica last year, scoring 20 times as the two-time European champion won the Primeira Liga and reached the Europa League quarterfinals.
Eden Hazard
Belgian forward completed protracted “dream” transfer to Real Madrid in June
UEFA Champions League 2019-20
MATCHDAY 1: SEP 18 Head-to-head W D L
GROUP A **Form** 2018-19
Club Brugge BEL 1 1 0 PSG Last 16
Galatasaray TUR 1 1 0 Real Last 16
PSG FRA 2 2 4 Brugge Group
Real Madrid ESP 2 2 4 Galatasaray Group
GROUP B
Olympiacos GRE 1 0 1 Bayern Last 16
Tottenham ENG 1 0 1 Tottenham Final
Bayern GER 2 1 2 Olympiacos
Red Star SRB 2 1 2 Red Star Group
GROUP C
Din, Zagreb CRO 0 2 0 Man City Q-final
Atalanta ITA 0 2 0 Shakhtar Group
Shakhtar UKR 1 0 3 Zagreb
Man City ENG 1 0 3 Atalanta Debut
GROUP D
Leverkusen GER First Juventus Q-final
Lokomotiv RUS meeting Atletico Last 16
Atletico ESP 3 1 5 Leverkusen
Juventus RUS Lokomotiv Group
MONEY LEAGUE: Top five leagues in Europe spent combined record total of €5.6bn in summer transfer window – teams from English Premier League (£1.58bn) and Spanish La Liga (£1.39bn) spending most
Summer 2019: Most expensive transfers
Felix Benfica to Atletico €126.0m
Griezmann Atletico Barcelona €120.0m
Hazard Chelsea Real €100.0m
Maguire Leicester Man Utd €87.0m
de Ligt Ajax Juventus €85.5m
Hernandez Atletico Bayern €80.0m
Sources: UEFA, Graecenet, Transfermarkt *Not in Champions League © GRAPHIC NEWS

Too early
The noise surrounding Felix was amplified after a sublime pre-season but a poor display in Saturday’s 2-0 La Liga loss at Real Sociedad showed that despite the obvious promise, it is still too early to speak of Felix and Ronaldo in the same breath.
Ronaldo, meanwhile, is in

a rich vein of form, with six goals in five matches this season for club and country, as he hunts a sixth Champions League title and aims to extend his record total of 126 goals in the competition.
After a series of painful Champions League failures, Pep Guardiola is on a mission to seal his Manchester City le-

gacy by finally getting his hands on the trophy again.
City starts its latest bid to win the club’s first European cup with a trip to Shakhtar Donetsk in the Group C opener on Wednesday.
The long flight to the Ukraine will give Guardiola plenty of time to ponder his curious streak of Champions

Tough test awaits Indian colts at junior Worlds

BADMINTON
SPORTS REPORTER
BENGALURU
In 2018, Lakshya Sen earned India a bronze in the boys’ singles at the BWF World junior badminton championships. This time around, emulating that performance seems a tough task for the 23-member squad that will travel to Kazan, Russia later this month.
“This is a whole new team,” said junior National Coach Sanjay Mishra, who put his wards through the paces at the Karnataka Badminton Academy courts on Tuesday. “Most are under-17 and will be at the Worlds for the first time. It’s a big-name tournament and comes with huge pressure. Last time in the team championships we played the quarters. If we repeat it this time, it will be big achievement.”
With the likes of Lakshya and Aakarshi Kashyap – both aged 18 – choosing to concentrate on their senior careers, it will be up to Manipur’s Maisnam Meiraba (2018 Asian Championships u-17 singles bronze medalist), Tamil Nadu’s Satish Kumar and Gujarat’s Tasnim Mir to lead the charge. But



Sanjay Mishra. ■ N. SUDARSHAN

their inexperience on the world stage can prove a hurdle.
“We have some very good individual players who can beat anybody on their day,” Mishra said. “Meiraba has played at international meets and won medals in Russia and Bulgaria. Tasnim is only 15 but is playing very well. She won the mixed doubles gold in Dubai recently. But the Worlds is about pressure. It’s a big-name tournament.”
“The draw matters a lot. Our players can upset top seeds. But winning the whole tournament is a different matter. In the team meetings we aren’t even talking about a medal. We are just asking them to give 100 %.”

Neymar’s Champions League suspension cut

AGENCE FRANCE-PRESSE LAUSANNE
Neymar’s Champions League ban for insulting match officials on social media has been reduced from three games to two following

an appeal, the Court of Arbitration for Sport (CAS) ruled on Tuesday. He will miss the fixtures against Real Madrid on Wednesday and Galatasaray due to the original ban from UEFA.

Winning the trophy is the team’s goal: Dharmaraj

‘Our side is full of youngsters and managing them is my role’

PKL
NANDAKUMAR MARAR
PUNE
Dharmaraj Cheralathan, 44, is focussed on enjoying the present in PKL season seven.

side could be built around them.”
The Steelers paid ₹38.5 lakh to sign him at the player auction, put him in charge for a gruelling 2019 season spread over three months.

“I work on my fitness and control, otherwise lasting seven seasons in the league is not easy. Fitness also helps in avoiding injury. I am not even thinking about what the future holds for me after six seasons. Winning the trophy is the team’s goal and as the captain, my emphasis is to work towards getting there.”
The South Central Railway (SCR, Secunderabad) defender is leading Haryana Steelers this time, his first season with the franchise and overall his sixth side since 2014, when the league was launched.

Rakesh Kumar, the chief coach, was his teammate in the India squad at one time.
“The coach understands the game, knows what value each player can bring to the team.
“In other teams, the coach puts equal load on experienced hands and youngsters. Here at Steelers, the coach knows when to put load on players and when a break will be more effective.”
The team is placed third and within sight of a place in the play-off.
“We made mistakes in the early games, then change of positions, making adjustments and coach planning made the difference.”

The defensive ace, an ankle hold specialist and India international, made his league entry in 2014 with Bengaluru Bulls, remained for the next year before shifting to Patna Pirates, Telugu Titans (2016), Puneri Paltan (2017) and U Mumba (2018).
“Shifting teams happened because managements were not sure if a senior would last a full season. Youthful players were preferred by coaches who felt a

Explaining the role as team leader in Steelers, he said: “I am the only senior. Our side is full of youngsters and managing them is my role. Youngsters can make mistakes. Calming them under pressure, playing each one according to individual ability is what I try to do.”
Wednesday’s matches: U Mumba vs UP Yodha; Puneri Paltan vs Tamil Thalaivas.

PKL STANDINGS	Team	P	W	L	D	Pts
	Dabang Delhi	16	13	2	1	69
	Bengal Warriors	16	9	4	3	58
	Haryana Steelers	15	10	4	1	54
	Bengaluru Bulls	16	9	7	0	49
	UP Yodha	15	8	5	2	47
	U Mumba	15	7	7	1	43
	Jaipur Pink Panthers	16	7	8	1	43
	Puneri Pirates	16	6	10	0	35
	Gujarat Fortnegiants	16	5	10	1	35
	Puneri Paltan	16	5	9	2	34
	Telugu Titans	15	4	9	2	30
	Tamil Thalaivas	16	3	11	2	27

TV PICKS

World wrestling: Sony Ten 3 (SD & HD), 4.30 p.m.
Tri-nation series: Bangladesh v Zimbabwe, 55 Select 2 (SD & HD), 6 p.m.
India v South Africa: 2nd T20I, Star Sports 1, 2 & 55 Select 1 (SD & DH), 7 p.m.
PKL: Star Sports 3, 7.30 p.m.
UEFA Champions League: Sony ESPN (SD & HD), 10.30 p.m.

IN BRIEF

10-man West Ham holds Aston Villa goalless

BIRMINGHAM
Ten-man West Ham held on for a 0-0 draw at Aston Villa in the Premier League on Monday after Arthur Masuaku was sent off midway through the second half. Masuaku was given a second booking for tripping Villa substitute Ahmed Elmohamady in the 67th minute. The game ebbed back and forth in the final minutes as West Ham threatened on a couple of quick counter-attacks but failed to create a clear-cut scoring chance.
The results: Premier League: Aston Villa 0 drew with West Ham 0.
Serie A: Torino 1 (Belotti 58-pen) lost to Lecce 2 (Farias 35, Mancosu 73). **AP**

Tamil Nadu in quarterfinals

PASIGHAT (ARUNACHAL PRADESH)
Tamil Nadu entered the quarterfinals with a 2-0 win over Goa in the Senior National women's football championship here on Tuesday. A. Karthika and R. Pandiselvi were the scorers. Tamil Nadu will play Madhya Pradesh on Sept. 20.

India loses to Australia

TEHRAN
India lost to Australia 29-27, 26-24, 25-21 in the classification (9-16) matches of the Asian senior men's volleyball championship here on Tuesday.

Hari, Vidit bow out

SPORTS BUREAU
KHANTY MANSIYSK (RUSSIA)

The Indian challenge in the World Cup chess championship ended after P. Hari Krishna and Vidit Gujrathi were knocked out in the third round here.
Having lost the first game of the third round on Monday, the two playing with white pieces, faced a must-win situation on Tuesday.
A desperate Hari stretched his luck too far in an equal position to lose to Russian rival Kirill Alekseenko in 52 moves, while Vidit drew with USA's Wesley So in 45 moves.
The results (involving Indians): Round 3, Game 2: P. Hari Krishna (2746) (O) lost to Kirill Alekseenko (Rus, 2671) (2); Vidit Gujrathi (2718) (O.5) drew with Wesley So (USA, 2767) (1.5).

India gets Champions Division berth

TABLE TENNIS

SPORTS BUREAU
YOGYAKARTA (INDONESIA)
The Indian men's table tennis team reserved its Champions Division berth in the next edition despite losing 3-1 to Japan in the quarterfinals of the 24th ITTF-Asian championships here on Monday. This became possible when it defeated Singapore 3-0 on Tuesday for 5-8 positions.
India will take on Hong

Ishaque beats Lakshit

SPORTS BUREAU
LUDHIANA
Second seed Ishaque Eqbal got past Lakshit Sood 6-4, 7-5 in the pre-quarterfinals of the ₹250,000 AITA men's ranking tennis tournament, organised by the Harvest Tennis Academy in Jassowal on Tuesday.
The results:
Pre-quarterfinals: Kunal Anand bt Mandeeep Yadav 6-1, 3-6, 6-3; Mohit Mayur bt Shubham Malhotra 6-0, 6-1.
Daltinder Singh bt Chandril Sood 6-2, 6-4; Suraj Prabodh

Vinesh's title hopes go up in smoke

Loses to World champion Mukaida but makes it to the repechage round

WORLD WRESTLING

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA
NUR-SULTAN (KAZAKHSTAN)
Indian wrestler Vinesh Phogat was on Tuesday pushed out of the title race by reigning champion Mayu Mukaida of Japan at the World Championship here.
It was a second consecutive defeat for Vinesh against the Japanese this season after losing to the two-time World champion at the Asian Championship in China.
Vinesh has Commonwealth Games and Asian Games titles to her name but is yet to win a medal at the Worlds.
However, with Mukaida managing to reach the final, Vinesh was presented with yet another shot at a medal as she will now take on former World Championships bronze medallist Yuliya Khalvazhdy of Ukraine.

Tough bouts ahead
A win over her, as well as a win over last year's runner-up Sarah Hildebrandt, will put Vinesh in the bronze medal bout versus Greece's two-time World Championships medallist Maria Prevolaraki



Another chance: Though Vinesh Phogat lost her bout to Mayu Mukaida of Japan, she has a chance to bag a bronze medal. **■ SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT**

and also fetch her a highly-coveted Tokyo Olympics qualification.
In another Olympic category, Seema Bisla (50kg) lost her pre-quarterfinal 2-9 to three-time Olympic medallist Mariya Stadnik. But with the latter progressing into the summit clash, Seema got another golden chance at a medal and a 2020 Olympic

berth.
For Seema to take the bronze, she needs to first overcome Nigeria's Miesinnei Mercy Genesis, then gets the better of Yasar Dogu silver medallist Ekaterina Poleshchuk before she can enter the bronze medal contest with China's Rio Olympic bronze medallist Sun Yanan.
In non-Olympic catego-

ries, Komal Gole was too defensive against Turkey's Beste Altug and lost her 72kg Qualification bout 1-4, while Lalita was outplayed 3-10 by Mongolia's Bolortuya Bat Ochir in 55kg.

Lalitam, Komal out
Both Lalita and Komal are now out of the championship since Bolortuya and Altug la-

Satwik-Ashwini pair posts stunning win

Defeats the World No. 7 duo of Jordan and Oktavianti

CHINA OPEN

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA
CHANGZHOU
India's mixed doubles pair of Satwiksairaj Rankireddy and Ashwini Ponnappa stunned Indonesia's World No. 7 duo of Praveen Jordan and Melati Daeva Oktavianti in the opening round of the China Open badminton tournament here on Tuesday.
Rankireddy then paired with Chirag Shetty to beat the Canadian duo of Jason Anthony Ho-Shue and Nyl Yakura 21-7, 21-18 in a 30-minute match to enter the men's doubles second round. The Indian pair now faces the fourth-seeded Japanese duo of Takeshi Kamura and Keigo Sonoda.
Recovery
World No. 26 Satwik and Ashwini showed their grit as they recovered from a mid-game slump to outwit the sixth-seeded Indonesian pair 22-20, 17-21, 21-17 in a 50-minute match to enter the second round of the \$1,000,000 World Tour Super 1000 tournament.
Jordan and Melati have so far reached five finals, including the 2018 India Open,



Gritty show: Satwiksairaj Rankireddy and Ashwini Ponnappa recovered from a mid-game slump to advance to the second round. **■ FILE PHOTO**

but they wilted under the relentless pressure created by the Indian pair.
The Indian pair had fallen back 4-7 early on but it reeled off five straight points to turn the tables and then held a slender 11-10 advantage at the break.
Jordan and Melati, however, built up a huge lead of 18-12 after the interval but the Indian duo slowly erased the deficit and caught up at 20-20 and then sealed the opening game.
In the second game, the Indonesian pair moved ahead from 4-4 to enter the breather with a 11-8 cushion.

ter lost their respective quarterfinals.
Placed in an extremely tough 53kg bracket, Vinesh made a dominating start by outclassing Rio Olympic bronze medallist Sofia Mattsson, winning 13-0 in her opening round.
However, in the much-anticipated clash against World No. 2 Mukaida, Vinesh could not be her usual attacking self and lost 0-7.
The first 60-70 seconds remained without scores as they measured each other. Vinesh lost a point on passivity and from there on, the Japanese began to dominate.
A quick take-down, followed by an expose and another take-down gave the Japanese a commanding 7-0 lead. Vinesh needed to attack but Mukaida's defence was like an immovable rock. The Indian made two double-leg attacks and also got hold of Mukaida's left leg but could not convert those moves into points.
India's campaign in the Greco-Roman style folded after Naveen lost his 130kg repechage round by technical superiority to Estonia's Heiki Nabi.



daCunha/AB/670

Shri Nivetha on the mark

SHOOTING

KAMESH SRINIVASAN
NEW DELHI

Shri Nivetha did her confidence some good by clinching the top position in women's air pistol final in the seventh National shooting selection trials which concluded at the Dr. Karni Singh Range, here on Tuesday.
On a day when World Cup gold medallist Yashaswini Singh Deswal shot the best qualification score of 583 and consolidated her position in the national team, and Esha Singh overtook the junior world record (243.3) in the final, Shri Nivetha did not help her cause with a score of 576 in the qualification phase.
This was in contrast to the 582 that Nivetha had shot the previous day, that saw her top the qualification chart, but finish second best to Ruchita Vinerkar in the final.
Olympian Annu Raj Singh shot 580 in qualification to

consolidate her place in the national squad.
Esha who had swept all the three gold medals in the women's, junior and youth sections in the last National championship in Thiruvananthapuram as a precocious 13-year-old, slipped to the sixth place in the women's event, before asserting her class with 244.0, for the junior honour.
In the men's 25-metre centre fire pistol, Yogesh Singh topped the list with 585, one point ahead of Adarsh Singh.
The results:
Men: 25m centre fire pistol: 1. Yogesh Singh 585; 2. Adarsh Singh 584; 3. Anhad Jawanda 582.
Women: 10m air pistol: 1. P. Shri Nivetha 239.7 (576); 2. Harshada Nithave 237.5 (574); 3. Anoushka Bhardwaj 218.4 (571).
Juniors: 1. Esha Singh 244.0 (574); 2. Yuvika Tomar 240.2 (570); 3. Sharla Devi 217.6 (571).
Youth: 1. Shikha Narwal 241.8 (570); 2. Aadhya Tayal 239.5 (569); 3. Esha Singh 216.3 (574).

Anirudh on top in Trap

SPORTS BUREAU
BHOPAL

Former National champion Anirudh Singh defeated Asian Games silver medallist Lakshay Sheoran 46-45 in the men's trap final in the sixth Shotgun selection trials here recently.
With the top shooters having opted out of the trials, as they had already consolidated their position in the national squad, it was a chance for the rest to sharpen their ability to negotiate the final.
Manavadiya Singh Rathore, Kynan Chenai and Prithviraj Tondaiman stayed at the top three in the national averages that would be considered for finalising the team for the Asian Championship to be held in Doha in November.
The Asian Championship will offer the final set of

Olympic quota places for Tokyo 2020.
The results:
Men: Trap: 1. Anirudh Singh 46 (120); 2. Lakshay Sheoran 45 (118); 3. Adhiraj Singh Rathore 34 (115). **Juniors:** 1. Vivaan Kapoor 47 (117); 2. Shardul Vihan 46 (117); 3. Manavadiya Singh Rathore 32 (108).
Skeet: 1. Mohd. Sheeraz Sheikh 56 (120); 2. Kuldeep Sanyashi 55 (111); 3. Mairaj Ahmad Khan 46 (121). **Juniors:** 1. Abhay Singh Sekhon 51 (108); 2. Arjun Thakur 49 (111); 3. Bhavtegh Singh Gill 40 (107).
Women: Trap: 1. Rajeshwari Kumari 41 (112); 2. Shreyasi Singh 39 (116); 3. Kirti Gupta 31 (113). **Juniors:** 1. Aadya Tripathi 42 (1040); 2. Kirti Gupta 40 (113); 3. Varda Sharma 32 (100).
Skeet: 1. Ganemat Sekhon 53 (120); 2. Aareba Khan 53(1) 112; 3. Darshna Rathore 43 (116). **Juniors:** 1. Aareba Khan 53 (112); 2. Darshna Rathore 51 (116); 3. Karttiki Singh Shaktawat 41 (110).

Manas outlasts Rushil

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
NEW DELHI
Manas Dhamne swung the contest in his favour in the tie-break after an intense battle of wits against top seed Rushil Khosla 7-6(4), 6-2 in the boys' pre-quarterfinals of the Asian under-14 grade-A junior tennis tournament at the DLTA Complex here on Tuesday.
In energy-sapping conditions, the two boys fought hard, especially in the first set. After trailing 2-5, the left-handed Rushil fought back to be on par. However, in the eventual tie-break he erred after the two changed sides at 3-3. Manas turned aggressor when required, but showed a lot of patience otherwise and stayed in the rallies. Manas hardly showed any emotion during the tight first set, but let out a scream after winning it.
The contest between the two had to be shifted from the main show court No. 1, as Nandini Dixit was engaged in a long-drawn battle with the top seed in the girls' section – Maria Breidy of Lebanon. Nandini won 6-3, 2-6, 6-2.
The results
(pre-quarterfinals):
Boys: Manas Dhamne bt Rushil



Manas Dhamne. **■ SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT**

Khosla 7-6(4), 6-2; Yuvan Nandal bt Arunava Majumder 3-6, 7-5, 6-4; Amirali Ghavan (Iri) bt Samar Malhotra 6-2, 6-1; Ayushmaan Arjeria bt Parag Jain 6-0, 6-0; Tejas Ahuja bt Artin Nazari (Iri) 7-6(1), 6-7(4), 6-4; Vitin Rathee bt Harsh Fogaat 6-4, 6-3; Agriya Yadav bt Omaansh Choudhary Saharia 6-7(3), 6-0, 6-3; Vansh Nandal bt Raghav Harsh 6-1, 6-2.
Girls: Nandini Dixit bt Maria Breidy (Lbn) 6-3, 2-6, 6-2; Samiksha Dabas bt Maisha Rao 6-1, 6-4; Riya Sachdeva bt Anannya Bhatia 6-2, 4-6, 6-4; Saumrita Jagatdeo Verma bt Raja Sarvagnya Kilaru 6-4, 4-6, 6-3; Millee Chug bt Shrawani Dudulkar 6-3, 6-4; Shruti Ahlawat bt Sahira Singh 6-0, 6-0; Jeetesh Kumari bt Chandni Srinivasan 6-2, 6-2; Pari Singh bt Nemha Sarah Kispotta 6-1, 6-0.

Hopewell Elias dethrones BKSP

Sangti Janai nets the only goal for the Meghalaya team

SUBROTO CUP

ANANT KAUR
NEW DELHI

Sangti Janai was the hero as he helped Hopewell Elias HSS (Meghalaya) dethrone defending champion Bangladesh Krida Shiksha Protishtan (BKSP) 1-0 in the Diamond Jubilee edition of the Subroto Cup boys' (under-17) final here on Tuesday.
The action in the initial phase was in the mid-field with both the teams looking to score. Meghalaya capital-

ised first when Sangti knocked the ball into the left top corner of the goal in the 32nd minute.
Some excellent saves by the Meghalaya goalkeeper Wanteilang Malngiang ensured the lead was intact in the first half.
Meghalaya pressed hard on resumption and made the most of a tiring opposition.
“Five of my players were having fever. It was really hard for the players,” said BKSP coach Hasan Al Masuc.
The frustration was visi-

ble among the Bangladesh players which eventually resulted in a rash tackle by Mojibor Rahman, reducing BKSP to 10 men after he was shown the red card. “It was a minor foul,” lamented Masuc.
Many saves
Bangladesh's goalkeeper Shakib Al Hasan made many saves to help his team avoid a huge defeat.
Another red card was given to Saimun in the closing stages of the match.

“It's a big win for our state. In the past we did not go beyond the semifinal, but this time we are the champions. I think this is a huge win for us to prepare for the Santosh Trophy,” said Meghalaya's coach Bobby L. Nongbet.
Sangti, the star of the day, said: “We are very happy to lift the trophy as this is the last year for us in the under-17 category. Our team spirit helped us win today.”
Giving away the prizes, Air Chief Marshal, B.S. Dhanoo said, “We strongly believe that sports is a critical factor to usher in human development and this needs no emphasis, as football is undoubtedly the world's favourite sport.
“The love for it is similar amongst the air warriors.”
The result (final): Hopewell Elias HSS (Meghalaya) 1 (Sangti Janai 32) bt Bangladesh Krida Shiksha Protishtan 0.
Special Awards: Best goalkeeper: Wanteilang Malngiang (Hopewell), **best player:** Sangti Janai (Hopewell), **best coach:** Bobby L. Nongbet (Hopewell), **best school:** Hopewell, **Fair Play Award:** St. Xavier's, Goa.



Taking the honours: Hopewell Elias HSS boys won the Subroto Cup under-17 football tournament in New Delhi on Tuesday. **■ SUSHIL KUMAR VERMA**